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CNMI pays tribute to 29 fallen law enforcers. PAGE 3

GAO says no CW = negative impact

By JON PEREZ
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REPORTER

Eliminating the CNMI-Only Transitional Worker visa classification would have a negative effect on the CNMI's economy, especially with Saipan experiencing renewed growth buoyed by new investments. That's according to the latest report of the U.S. Government Accountability Office.

The visa classification known as CW1, which allows CNMI employers to hire foreign workers, would end in December 2019. Employers are expected by then to have already transitioned their foreign workers to another U.S. worker visa category. The five-year program began in 2009 and supposed to end in 2014. It was extended for another five years to 2019.

The GAO report, released on Fri-

See GAO on Page 4

ERWIN ENCINARES

Lorielyn D. Lacay, an AA Criminal Justice graduate, receives the student leadership award during the NMC Class of 2017 graduation.

4 NMC students obtain perfect GPA's

By ERWIN ENCINARES
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REPORTER

Of the record-breaking 208 students that graduated from the Northern Marianas College last Saturday, a total of four were able to achieve a grade point average of 4.0, the highest rating a student may achieve. That automatically gave them *summa cum laude* honors during last Saturday NMC commencement rites at the Koblerville Gym.

One of four, Wei Wei, a graduate with an associate degree in Business Administration with emphasis in Accounting, thanked NMC and her many friends for making her feel like she belonged on Saipan.

That was distinctly different compared to how Wei felt when she first arrived on the island nine years ago. "Everything to me was unfamiliar

See NMC on Page 4

Alleged driver in Marpi rob arrested

- **Cops allegedly recover victims' property during raid at suspect's house**
- **$100,000 cash bail imposed**

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

Police arrested on Saturday morning beach volleyball player Jazzy Rosokow, who was tagged as the driver of a rental car that was used during the robbery of three female tourists along Banzai Cliff Road in Marpi.

Separately, acting Public Safety spokesman Jason Tarkong confirmed over the weekend that the driver of the getaway vehicle had been arrested but he declined to provide more information, saying he has no details yet.

Saipan Tribune sources, however,

See ALLEGED on Page 4

FOR NOT HELPING HIM WITH ATTORNEY'S FEE

Ogumoro lambastes Fitial

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

Former Department of Public Safety deputy commissioner Ambrosio T. Ogumoro is now lambasting former governor Benigno R. Fitial for not helping him out with his attorney's fee when he was charged for shielding then-attorney general Edward Buckingham from being served with penal summons at the Saipan airport in 2012.

Ogumoro said it's a disgrace on Fitial's part because he did not come

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INSIDE

LOCAL

The Fishing and Seafood Festival Family Fun Fishing Derby is coming up.

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WORLD

President Donald Trump calls for Muslim unity in the fight against terrorism.

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LIFE & STYLE

All eyes were on Pippa Middleton on Saturday as she walked down the aisle.

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Local

IN CASE VS MCC INTERNATIONAL PROJECT MANAGER, 4 OTHERS

Protective order OK'd due to sensitive information

The federal court on Friday granted the U.S. government's request to issue a protective order in the cases against MCC International project manager Yuqing Zhao, Beilida Overseas president Hui Lu, and Beilida's Wencai Guo, Xiufang Qi, and Hongwei Ma.

The protective order would restrict the defense's use and disclosure of any information given them so they could prepare for their defense.

Except for Qi, who did not oppose to the motion, all of the defendants have not filed a response.

In granting the motion, U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona said the protective order does not prohibit defense counsel or members of the defense team from reviewing and discussing the contents of documents containing personal information with defendants and prospective witnesses, as long as counsel or members of the defense team do not share the documents with the defendants or share any personal information of witnesses with defendants or prospective witnesses.

The indictment charged Zhao of harboring illegal aliens. A separate indictment charged Beilida Overseas president Lu and Beilida's Guo, Qi, and Ma with harboring illegal aliens.

The charges were in connection with the alleged illegal Chinese workers at Pacific Imperial International CNMI LLC's ongoing construction of a casino and resort in Garapan.

In the U.S. government's motion for protective order, assistant U.S. attorneys Eric O'Malley and James Benedetto said the discovery includes documents and data that contain sensitive information, including personal identifying information such as social security number, passport numbers, and dates of birth, for many individuals.

Discovery refers to a pre-trial procedure in a case in which each party, through a procedure, can obtain evidence from the other party or parties.

O'Malley and Benedetto said the discovery also includes tax and bank account information and other sensitive information regarding individuals who are not charged in the indictments and whose relevance to this case is not yet known.

See PROTECTIVE on Page 4

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SAFETY AIRBAG INFLATOR RECALL

CERTAIN AFFECTED MODELS 2001-2015

Camacho pushes for genset

By ERWIN ENCINARES
erwin_encinares@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Commonwealth Utilities Corp. board may have already resigned, but the corporation still needs to procure a new engine, according to CUC executive director Gary Camacho.

In a letter dated May 17 to Gov. Ralph DLG Torres, Camacho said he plans to take the "appropriate and lawful steps provided under CUC's procurement regulations to proceed with the procurement and installation of a replacement engine for Engine 8."

Based on the letter, the project would include removing the old engine from Power Plant 1 and inspecting its mounting pad to determine the "suitability for the installation of the replacement engine."

The former CUC board cancelled last April 19 the request for proposals and the request for quotations for the procurement of the engine.

Prior to cancellation, General Pacific Services Marianas Inc. won the contract to deliver and install the engine. That plan got scuttled after conflicts of interest later surfaced. The connections to the CUC board launched oversight hearings by both the House and Senate Public Utilities and Transportation Committees. Along with an unfavorable audit on CUC by the CNMI Office of the Public Auditor, Torres asked the CUC board last Friday to submit their courtesy resignations.

Though it was debated during the oversight hearings whether the procurement of the engine was an emergency or not, Camacho, in his letter, clarified that "there exists an ongoing immediate and pressing need for this replacement engine due to the existence of an extremely low power reserve capacity on Saipan."

It was specified in Camacho's letter that CUC's reserve capacity for Saipan was at less than 3 megawatts.

However, in a previous interview, Camacho told *Saipan Tribune* that since re-energizing of Engine 4 at Power Plant 1 last May 3, the reserve power capacity of Saipan has gone from 0.95 MW to 8.2 MW. According to Camacho, the peak power demand of Saipan is at 40.4 MW.

To reiterate the need of the engine, Camacho wrote, "CUC feels that the minimum reserve capacity for Saipan should be equal to 40 to 50 percent of the peak demand for power. Currently, Saipan's peak power demand is [about] 41 MW."

Car Seat Checkup
Top 5 things to do

- **Right Seat.** This is an easy one. Check the label on your car seat to make sure it's appropriate for your child's age, weight and height. Like milk, your car seat has an expiration date. Just double check the label on your car seat to make sure it is still safe.
- **Right Place.** Kids are VIPs, just ask them. We all know VIPs ride in the back seat, so keep all children in the back seat until they are 13.
- **Right Direction.** You want to keep your child in a rear-facing car seat for as long as possible, usually until the age of 2 or when the child reaches the maximum height or weight limit required by the car seat manufacturer. Once the child outgrows the rear-facing position, they are ready to move to a forward facing seat or position.
- **Check for Tightness.** Once your car seat is installed, pull from the path in all direction to check whether it is secured and should not move more than an inch. Check car seat manual when installing a car seat using top tether and lower anchors.
- **Pinch Test.** Make sure the harness is tightly buckled and coming from the correct slots (check car seat manual). Now, with the chest clip placed at armpit level, pinch the strap at your child's shoulder. If you are unable to pinch any excess webbing, you're good to go.

Please read the vehicle and car seat instruction manuals to help you with this checklist. If you are having even the slightest trouble, questions or concerns, don't worry about a thing. You can contact Certified Child Passenger Safety Technicians at the numbers below.

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CNMI pays tribute to 29 fallen law enforcers

Twenty-nine law enforcers were honored at the National Peace Officers Memorial Ceremony at the newly renovated Department of Public Safety Complex in Susupe last Friday.

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres said: "Today we honor those that left us in the line of duty and we will never forget them."

DPS Commissioner Robert A. Guerrero explained that they relocated the DPS monument from the parking lot in front of DPS to a garden next to the former Superior Court because "this should be a sacred place, where only our employees and officers, but even family members can come and visit a solemn place that remembers and commemorates their love ones hard work during their tenure with the department and while serving our community," Guerrero said.

Fallen DPS officers included Joaquin T. Mettao, Erlinse C. Santos, Abraham S. Quitugua, Gilbert M. Taisacan, Wilgene T. Lieto, Joe Charfauros Jr., Dwayne Stephen, Jesse K. Seman, Justino T. Arriola, Julian A. Manglona, Hilary Tagabuel, Edward M. Ayuyu, and John T. Barcinas.

FERDIE DE LA TORRE

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres, right, and Lt. Gov. Victor B. Hocog lead the presentation of a memorial wreath for the 29 fallen law enforcers during the National Peace Officers Memorial Ceremony at the Department of Public Safety monument at DPS Complex in Susupe on Friday afternoon.

FERDIE DE LA TORRE

Department of Public Safety police officers render a 21-gun salute to honor the 29 fallen law enforcers during the National Peace Officers Memorial Ceremony at DPS Complex in Susupe on Friday afternoon.

Fallen customs officers included Crispin Lisua, Kenneth Kapileo, Patricia Reyes, Antonio C. Reyes, Antonio Calvo, Maximo C. Cabrera, Edwin A. Castro, Gerald S. Sablan, and Ricardo DLC Camacho.

Tributes were also given to police officers Tommy Alexander and firefighters Esteban R. Nogis, Ernie T. Dela Cruz, Joaquin Camacho, George Ada, and Raymond Villagomez. Conservation officer Jesus A. Omar was also honored.

Lt. Gov. Victor B. Hocog presented the memorial wreath at the DPS monument. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

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E-Land spends $100K to enhance public structures

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA
kbautista1222@gmail.com
REPORTER

The E-Land Group has been giving back to the community through many projects that so far amount to over $100,000.

The parent company of Micronesia Resort Inc., which owns the Coral Ocean Point Golf Resort and Kensington Resort, has sponsored many projects that include renovation of pavilions, restrooms in public beaches, bus shelter maintenance, building of school stages, environmental programs with schools, and more.

According to E-Land Corporate Social Responsibility's Jieun Ko, the management's philosophy is to return 10 percent of what they earn to the community. The 10 percent is directed to charities and infrastructural advancement projects.

As an example, E-Land recently renovated 12 pavilions. This year alone, three pavilions were added to the Unai Dangkulo Beach Park behind Coral Ocean Point. The pavilions were renovated to enhance the barbecue pits and to add benches.

Three pavilions were renovated along the 13 Fishermen's Monument along Beach Road. The project enhanced the pavilions and more stable.

Five pavilions were renovated at Paupau Beach Park. Renovations included additional benches to the pavilions and more barbecue pits.

According to Ko, portable restrooms were also placed at the Paupau Beach Park.

E-Land sponsors the rent and maintenance of the portable restrooms. The rent and maintenance of the two portable restrooms at Paupau costs $480 a month.

Other projects include the renovations of the Minachom Atdao Pavilion at the end of 2016, the newly built stage at Saipan Southern High School, renovation of five bus shelters in Koblerville, and another one in Paupau.

GAO

From Page 1

day, said that its conclusions were based on the CNMI's most recent data available, the 2015 gross domestic product, which showed that the Commonwealth's economy grew by 0.7 percent or from 2.8 percent to 3.5 percent in 2014. It was the fourth straight year the CNMI's GDP went up, despite the fact that Typhoon Soudelor devastated Saipan in 2015. The CNMI's GDP hit an all-time low of negative 17.5 percent in 2009.

The GAO report said the CNMI's current and planned demand for labor exceeds the supply of U.S. eligible workers. "Demand for CW1 workers exceeded the available number of CW1 permits in 2016, while planned hotels, casinos, and other infrastructure projects estimate needing thousands of new employees," the report said.

GAO added that the existing CW1 permits for foreign workers and the local supply of U.S. workers won't meet the growing demand that is expected to further increase once other projects go online.

"CNMI employers face multiple challenges in recruiting and retaining U.S. workers, according to several CNMI employers that participated in our discussion groups and semi-structured interviews."

GAO determined that the CNMI's GDP in 2015 would drop by more than half if the Commonwealth would lose all workers under the CW1 category. "We determined that the CNMI's 2015 GDP would decline by 26 to 62 percent with no CW-1 workers, depending on the assumptions made."

The report stated that CW1 workers comprise 45 percent of the CNMI's total workforce in 2015. "To estimate the possible effect of a reduction in the number of workers with CW1 permits in the CNMI to zero—through the scheduled end of the program—we employed the economic method that enabled us to stimulate the effect of a reduction under a number of different assumptions."

"Available data suggest that predictions based on our model are consistent with the experience of the CNMI during and after the departure of the garment industry from 2002 through 2015, which also show a large drop in the number of foreign workers."

The GAO report added that predicting the effect on the CNMI's economy, if foreign workers under the CW1 program were to be decreased, is challenging compared to making a forecast on reducing domestic workers in general "because of several sources of uncertainty…including that the two groups' economic effects may vary (i.e., they may serve in different types of jobs) and the numbers of domestic workers who enter the CNMI labor market may vary."

Employers interviewed by GAO representatives—led by Assistant director/senior economist for International Affairs and Trade Emil Friberg Jr., Ph.D.—that visited the CNMI last year said that ending the CW1 program in 2019 is expected to have a negative impact on the local business sector.

GAO held four facilitated discussion groups and seven semi-structured interviews with members of the CNMI business sector and several government officials during their weeklong visit on Saipan in December 2016.

The report said that a participant of the discussion group revealed that he expects his business sales to dip by 30 percent. "The owner of the only airline that transports passengers to and from Saipan, Tinian, and Rota told us that 12 of his [CW1] employees will be affected by the 2017 cap next summer."

"Without them, he did not think he would be able to remain in business. Some employers told us that they already have been negatively affected when they were able to renew CW1 worker permits," the report added.

"In all four facilitated discussion groups and six of the seven semi-structured interviews, at least one employer reported that reaching the CW1 cap in fiscal years 2016 and 2017 had negative effects."

GAO said a small business owner, in one of the discussion groups, reportedly lost his only videographer because he was unable to obtain a CW1 permit, resulting in lost sales while a large employer reported that it would not be able to open at full capacity after learning that 40 workers in one of its units would also be affected by the 2017 numerical cap.

"The employer also reported having spent more than $30,000 to purchase flight tickets home for 18 CW1 workers when their permits expired, as well as $20,000 to apply for H1B visas for some employees."

GAO was required to make a report on the economic impact after a 2007 law required the CNMI to increase its minimum wage in increments. The Consolidated Natural Resources Act of 2008 gave immigration control of the CNMI to the Department of Homeland Security where they created the foreign worker transitional permit program.

DHS decreased the number of permits they issued annually; it currently stands at 12,998 for fiscal 2017. They are also required, after the 2014 extension, to zero out the CW1 program by Dec. 31, 2019.

GAO, however, did not made any recommendations on what needs to be done after conducting their report.

OGUMORO

From Page 1

forward, did not call him, and did not even hand him a penny to help pay for his attorney's fee.

"There are three things that I have to say about Fitial: He is a hypocrite. A coward. And he betrayed the whole Carolinian community, to include the CNMI people," he said.

Saipan Tribune tried but failed to get comments from Fitial.

Ogumoro believes the former governor is a coward because he is scared to call him.

Ogumoro said before Fitial's impeachment, he told Fitial that by putting James C. Deleon Guerrero as DPS commissioner, he (Fitial) is "lighting a fire."

It was the first time that Ogumoro broke his silence on Fitial, who was also implicated in the effort to shield Buckingham.

Ogumoro, however, was only the defendant in that case to actually serve a prison term.

The other defendants were Buckingham, former Commonwealth Ports Authority police chief Jordan Kosam, CPA police captain John T. Rebuenog, and Fitial's former personal driver and bodyguard, Jermaine Joseph W. Nekaifes.

In January 2015, a Superior Court jury found Ogumoro guilty of conspiracy to commit theft of services pertaining to the shielding of Buckingham.

Then-associate judge David A. Wiseman found Ogumoro guilty of five counts of misconduct in public office, one count of obstructing justice: interference with a law enforcement officer or witness, and one count of criminal coercion.

In March 2016, Wiseman imposed a one-year prison term on Ogumoro plus other conditions.

Fitial resigned as governor on Feb. 20, 2013, days after the House of Representatives impeached him on charges of corruption, felony, and neglect of duty.

Fitial and Kosam pleaded guilty, while Buckingham was convicted during a bench trial. Fitial, Kosam, and Buckingham did not serve prison terms. The charges against Rebuenog and Nekaifes were dismissed.

Last May 2, Ogumoro was found guilty of two corruption charges and acquitted of four other charges.

The jury found him guilty of theft by deception and not guilty of theft by unlawful taking.

Associate Judge Kenneth L. Govendo, who decided on the misdemeanor charges, found Ogumoro guilty of one count of misconduct in public office, not guilty of two counts of removal of government property, and not guilty of one count of misconduct in public office.

Sentencing will be on Sept. 12, 2017.

NMC

From Page 1

and I didn't have any family, friends nor relationships on Saipan [at the time]," she said.

"We always meet people or [encounter problems] that try to make life tougher, but a tough life only teaches people how to be strong and never give up. The road to success won't be easy, but we won't stop. Today's graduation is not the end. It is also the start," said Wei in her speech.

The other three summa cum laude honorees are Romana Tefania T. Chong, Leon Liang Lizama II, and Xu Jiabao.

The keynote speaker, Kagman High School teacher Gerard Van Gils, challenged the new graduates to help solve the many problems currently facing the CNMI.

"You are the solution. Armed with your education, you stand ready to serve and improve our islands," said Van Gils. "We've been waiting for your graduation. Today you should rightly celebrate, but tomorrow we have work to do."

A CNMI Teacher of the Year, Van Gils specifically cited the graduates with education degrees.

"Being a teacher is a great and noble profession. I congratulate you on completing your education. In August, I will be back in my classroom, once again scraping gum off desks. I can't wait to welcome you as my peers to the greatest job in the world," he said.

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres, who was also present at the 37th NMC commencement exercises, also sought to inspire the new graduates.

"Each one of you can make a difference wherever you're at. I ask all of you, as you walk down the aisle holding your diplomas—hold it with pride and make those differences," he said.

In an earlier interview, NMC president Dr. Carmen Fernandez expressed how proud she was of all the graduates "who will be joining thousands of other NMC alumni who are business executives, government leaders, community advocates, and other professionals who are making a positive difference."

ALLEGED

From Page 1

disclosed that members of a special DPS task force served an arrest warrant on Rosokow on Saturday at 6:57am on charges of robbery, conspiracy to commit robbery, and disturbing the peace.

The task force, sources said, also executed a search warrant at Rosokow's residence in Tanapag, where the officers recovered the victims' property.

Sources said it was Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho who issued the arrest and search warrants.

Camacho imposed a $100,000 cash bail, sources added.

DPS Commissioner Robert A. Guerrero disclosed Friday that he had created a special task force led by Sgt. Simon Manacop to investigate the spate of robberies on Saipan.

The task force first arrested in the evening last May 14 Alvin Jacob Iguel Blas, a 28-year-old bakery employee, who was allegedly the man who grabbed the backpack of the three tourists along Banzai Cliff Road that afternoon.

One victim, who ran after Blas and got dragged by the suspects' rented Hyundai Accent, had several abrasions on her forearms, left hand, left knuckles, wrists, elbows, and right knee.

Police said the victim, Quichan Yang, and her two sisters had parked their rented car, a pink Mustang, along the shoulder of the Banzai Cliff Road to take some photographs.

The suspects parked their rented Hyundai Accent 20 feet behind the Mustang, then one, identified later as Blas, approached the passenger side of the Mustang and asked Yang if they needed help taking pictures.

Blas, however, grabbed Yang's backpack that she had placed on her lap, and a struggle ensued, resulting in her being dragged on the road.

Another tourist, however, managed to take video of the incident, leading to the identification and subsequent arrest of Blas that same night.

The video reportedly went viral in China and in the Chinese community in the CNMI.

PROTECTIVE

From Page 2

According to the indictment, beginning on Aug. 1, 2016, and continuing until March 31, 2017, Zhao harbored 15 illegal aliens.

The separate indictment alleges that on March 8 through March 22, 2017, Lu, Guo, and Ma harbored an illegal alien, Yuanyou Hu, who later died at the construction site.

Hu, a Chinese national, died after falling from a scaffold at the construction site of the Imperial Pacific casino and resort project last March 22.

The Federal Bureau of Investigation later determined that Hu entered the CNMI as a parolee/tourist and therefore was not authorized to work in the Commonwealth.

On Feb. 7 through March 22, 2017, Lu Guo, Qi, and Ma allegedly harbored six illegal alien.

MCC International is the construction contractor for Imperial Pacific. Beilida Overseas is a subcontractor. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

Coast Guard kicks off safe boating campaign

SANTA RITA, Guam— The annual National Safe Boating Week safety campaign kicked off nationwide last Saturday.

Coast Guard Auxiliary flotillas will host events to highlight the importance of boating safety throughout the week leading up to Memorial Day weekend.

"Wearing a life jacket significantly increases your chances of survival during an emergency situation," said Lt. Cmdr. Nicole Auth, director of auxiliary and recreational boating safety for the Coast Guard 14th District. "The Coast Guard Auxiliary on Oahu will be employing their new mobile life jacket loaner station, which will allow members of the public to borrow life jackets as they need them."

Saturday was also Ready, Set, Wear It! Life Jacket World Record Day, when thousands of people from around the world attempted to set the world record for the most life jackets worn and inflatable life jackets inflated in one day in an effort to raise awareness about the importance of wearing a life jacket.

In 2015, drowning was the reported cause of death in three-fourths of recreational boating fatalities, and 85 percent of those who drowned were not wearing life jackets. Coast Guard statistics for 2016 have not been released yet. ***(USCG)***

Grief support group to meet on June 1

The Compassionate Friends of Saipan will be holding its monthly grief support meeting on Thursday, June 1, from 6pm to 7:30pm, in the NMPASI conference room on Middle Road, in Gualo Rai.

We offer understanding and hope to parents, siblings and grandparents who are grieving the loss of a child of any age, and from any cause. We provide a safe, confidential setting, in which to share our experiences, while respecting and supporting each other, and listening. We have "been there." We do not espouse any specific religious or philosophical ideology. There is no "right way" to grieve, and family members are welcome to come to share or just to listen.

The mission of The Compassionate Friends is to assist families in the positive resolution of grief following the death of a child of any age and to provide information to help others to be supportive. Today more than 600 chapters serving all 50 states plus Washington, D.C., Puerto Rico, Guam and Saipan offer friendship, understanding, and hope to bereaved parents, siblings and grandparents and other family members during the natural grieving process after a child has died.

For more information, e-mail tcfSaipan@gmail.com or call Donna Krum (783-1900). To learn more about The Compassionate Friends, visit its website at www.compassionatefriends.org. ***(PR)***

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EXAMINATION ANNOUNCEMENT
HUMAN RESOURCES OFFICE

It is the policy of the State Board of Education, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, that the Public School System (PSS), Human Resources Office shall be applied and administered according to the principles of equal employment opportunity. Applications shall be evaluated regardless of age, race, gender, sexual orientation, religion, political affiliation or belief, marital status, disability, or national origin.

Applicants for this position must be a U.S. Citizen or be eligible and authorized to work in the U.S., including the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands for the Public School System.

POSITION/TITLE: Legal Counsel (Amendment)
EXAMINATION ANNOUNCEMENT NO.: **PSS-2017-063**
OPENING DATE: May 16, 2017 CLOSING DATE: May 30, 2017
SALARY: PL/GRADE: **Ungraded** STEP(S): **Ungraded; $40,000.00-$70,000.00** Per Annum
BENEFITS: Salary commensurate with qualifications and experience, plus excellent benefits (including Life Insurance, Retirement Benefits, and Paid Leave/Holidays).
LOCATION: **PSS, Office of the Commissioner of Education**

QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS:

- Graduation from an U.S. accredited college or university with a Juris Doctorate degree. Applicant must be a member in good standing of the CNMI bar or a member of a state bar and qualify to practice law in the CNMI. The applicant must also have at least three (3) years legal work experience, preferably for government entities handling government contracts and/or education issues.

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS:

INTERESTED APPLICANTS MAY OBTAIN AND SUBMIT COMPLETED APPLICATION FORMS TO THE PSS HUMAN RESOURCES OFFICE AT CNMI PSS CENTRAL OFFICE BUILDING, CAPITOL HILL BUILDING #1202.

REQUIRED DOCUMENTS MUST BE ATTACHED TO APPLICATION FORMS: (1) COPY OF DIPLOMA/DEGREE, (2) TRANSCRIPTS, (3) POLICE CLEARANCE (FROM PLACE OF RESIDENCE FOR PAST SIX MONTHS), (4) VERIFICATION OF EMPLOYMENT LETTER, (5) RESUME, AND (6) TEACHING CERTIFICATE (IF APPLICABLE).

COMPLETED APPLICATIONS AND REQUIRED DOCUMENTS MAY BE SUBMITTED TO THE HUMAN RESOURCES OFFICE OR MAILED TO: CNMI PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM, ATTN: HUMAN RESOURCES OFFICE, CNMI PSS CENTRAL OFFICE BUILDING, CAPITOL HILL BUILDING #1202, P.O. BOX 501370CK, SAIPAN, MP 96950, TEL. NOS. (670) 237-3079.

YOUR APPLICATION FORMS MUST BE RECEIVED BY THE PSS HUMAN RESOURCES OFFICE ON OR BEFORE THE CLOSING DATE OF THE POSITION ANNOUNCEMENT.

Chamorro house eyed at Balboa Park

The Chamorro Optimist Club San Diego aims to build a permanent home to house the indigenous culture of Chamorros in the mainland.

Specifically, the club wants to build a replica of the home to Chamorros in Balboa Park, where nearly 14 million visitors venture to annually.

The House of Chamorros Foundation executive director J.R. So discussed this project with Gov. Ralph DLG Torres on Thursday.

The foundation's goal is to fund raise $300,000. As of today, the foundation has raised $102,000 since May of 2016.

The foundation also earned $30,000 in private loans.

Torres, in partnership with the Marianas Visitors Authority, will discuss a commitment of $75,000. Guam has pledged $75,000 to the House of Chamorros.

The foundation still needs $46,000 more to get the project started.

Memberships are also offered for the House of Chamorros. Interested donors of the project are free to make an online donation at https://www.sdfoundation.org/donors/donate-online/nonprofit-agency-fund/?naf=house-of-chamorros. ***(Kimberly A. Bautista)***

JON PEREZ

House of Chamorros executive director J.R. So, second right, discusses the project with Gov. Ralph DLG Torres, second left, Saipan and Northern Islands Municipal Council chair Luis John Castro, left, and Lt. Gov. Victor B. Hocog's chief of staff, John Oliver Gonzales.

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Judiciary Administrative Office
Guma' Hustisia · Iimwal Aweewe · House of Justice
P.O. Box 502165 · Saipan MP 96950
T: (670) 236-9715 · F: (670) 236-9702

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

The Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI) Judiciary is seeking a highly motivated individual for a limited term position of:

DATA SYSTEMS ANALYST

Announcement # JVA17-014
Office of the Clerk of Court
Superior Court
SAIPAN

DUTIES: This position is under the general supervision of the Presiding Judge and the direct supervision of the Clerk of Court or his/her designee. The employee performs work in accordance with established policies, practices, and court procedures. The following are required duties:

- Performs the full range of data entry and database contents review for pre- and post-judgment services in civil, criminal, traffic, small claims, and family court dockets;
- Compiles data from various sources including court databases, periodic reports, surveys, and performance tool reviews from the Judges' chambers, Family Court Division, Administrative Support Units, the Marshal Service Division, and the Offices of the Clerks of Court and Adult Probation Supervision;
- Reviews data compilation reports and trends and assists with the determination of analysis and interpretation outcomes;
- Performs credibility reviews to assess data quality, verification and update, including review of standard data audit components like computer entry processes, user practices, reporting templates, screen formats, and initial source verification documents;
- Identifies, interprets, and reports patterns and trends from data collection and/or audits;
- Responds to general inquiries regarding data verification and reporting for the Superior Court and assist with data integration processes with affected divisions or authorized agencies;
- Coordinates and assists the Clerk of Court with special projects requiring court statistics or reports;
- Adheres to and complies with all promulgated policies, standards, and codes of ethical conduct; and
- Performs other related duties as assigned.

QUALIFICATIONS AND REQUIREMENTS: The Data Systems Analyst should have an associate's degree from an accredited U.S. university or college or 2 years of equivalent experience. The incumbent must also have at least four (4) years experience in the legal or administrative field. Successful candidate must provide current police and traffic clearances and proof of eligibility to work in the CNMI.

COMPENSATION AND TENURE: This is an ungraded position appointed and serves at the pleasure of the Presiding Judge. The salary will be $25,000 annually.

INTERESTED PERSONS may obtain application forms at OPM offices in the CNMI, the Judiciary Administrative Office at the Guma Hustisia/Iimwal Aweewe/House of Justice in Susupe, or at the Superior Court offices on Tinian and Rota. Completed applications, cover letter, and three references should be submitted to:

Human Resources
Guma Hustisia/Iimwal Aweewe/House of Justice
P.O. Box 502165
Saipan, MP 96950
Tel. (670)236-9818
Fax. (670) 236-9702

This job announcement will remain open until filled. Also, this job announcement can be seen and a printable copy of the application downloaded at http://www.justice.gov.mp.

THE CNMI JUDICIARY IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY PROVIDER AND EMPLOYER.

COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
PUBLIC ASSISTANCE OFFICE, DR-4235-MP
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
Caller Box 10007
Saipan, MP 96950
Tel.: (670) 664-2411
Fax: (670) 664-2408

INVITATION FOR BID

ITBI 7-GOV-133 Department of Public Safety
Smiling Cove Facility and Impound Lot Facility Repairs and Renovations
FEMA DR-4235-MP PA PW 52

Governor Ralph DLG. Torres and Lt. Governor Victor B. Hocog, through the Public Assistance Program are soliciting sealed bids for the repair and renovation of the Department of Public Safety Smiling Cove Facility in Garapan, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI).

The project package will be available May 15, 2017, at the Public Assistance Program, Office of the Governor, Juan A. Sablan Administration Building in Capitol Hill, Saipan. A $100.00 non-refundable fee for the project package will be assessed. Payment must be made to the CNMI Treasurer and a receipt of payment be present when obtaining a project package. **All interested bidders are required to include an Insurer Certification Clearance (ICC) in their bid packages in order to bid on this project. The ICC should be obtained at the Department of Commerce, Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC) on Capitol Hill.**

Bidding procedures shall be in full compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations, currently in effect, and with the Northern Mariana Islands Administrative Code (NMIAC) §70-30-3-725 Gratuities and Kickbacks and §70.30.3-730 Prohibition Against Contingent Fees. All wage rates for employees performing the work, labor and services on this project shall be paid at the current U.S. prevailing wage rates established for the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

There will be a mandatory pre-bid conference and site visit for this project on June 5, 2017, at 9:00 am ChST at the DPS Smiling Cove Facility in Garapan, Saipan and the Impound Lot Facility in Lower Base, Saipan, immediately after. Questions concerning this project shal1 be directed to Patrick C. Guerrero in writing on or before June 9, 2017 to the Public Assistance Program, Office of the Governor, Juan A. Sablan Administration Building, Capitol Hill, Saipan, by email to: patrickguerrero.pa@gmail.com, or fax (670) 664-2408. All responses to inquiries will be shared with all prospective bidders.

Sealed bids must be marked *ITBI 7-GOV-133 Department of Public Safety Smiling Cove Facility and Impound Lot Facility Repairs and Renovations*. For bidders within the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be submitted to the Director of Procurement and Supply located at the former Emergency Management Office, Building No. 1301, Ascencion Drive, Capitol Hill on Saipan no later than **10:30 a.m. ChST June 16, 2017**. Bidders located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional seven (7) working days for receipt of their bids by submitting a Notice of Intent to Bid. Notices of Intent to Bid must be received by the Director of Procurement & Supply no later than 9 a.m. ChST June 16, 2017, and must be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-mail to procurement@pticom.com. For bidders located outside the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than June 16, 2017, and the bid documents must be received no later than June 30, 2017. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a bid.

Bids will be publicly open and read at the Division of Procurement and Supply located at the former Emergency Management Office, Building No. 1301, Ascencion Drive, Capitol Hill on Saipan at *9:00 a.m. ChSTJuly 3, 2017*. However, if no notices of intent to bid are received from bidders outside the CNMI, bids will be open at *10:30 a.m. ChST June 16, 2017*.

For bids greater than Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars ($25,000.00) a bid security of fifteen percent (15%) of the bid amount must accompany the bid. Bid security shall be on a bid bond, in cash, by certified check, cashier's check or other form acceptable to the government. A surety company shall hold the certificate of authority from the U.S. Secretary of the Treasury as an acceptable surety or other surety acceptable to the Attorney General. Checks must be made payable to the CNMI Treasurer, with the name of the bidder and a notation on the face of the check: "Credit Account No. 44660". If a bid bond is submitted it must be accompanied by an Insurer Clearance Certification (ICC).

The bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be subject to a responsibility determination in conformance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations Section 70-30.3-245. The responsible bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be awarded a contract with the CNMI Government and will be required to deliver Performance and Payment bonds, each equal to 100% of the contract price for contracts greater than $25,000.00.

Prior to the execution of the contract, the selected contractor shall submit:
a) A current license from the bonding company showing that it has authority to issue bond in the CNMI, and
b) A certification from the bonding company that the unencumbered value of its assets (exclusive of all outstanding commitments on other bond obligations) exceeds the penal amount of each bond.

A contractor submitting an unacceptable payment or performance bond may be permitted a reasonable time, as determined by the P&S Director, to substitute an acceptable bond prior to executing a contract. Acceptable assets are only:
1) Cash
2) US Government Securities
3) Stocks and Bonds traded on US Security Exchange
4) Real Property owned in fee simple in US; and
5) Irrevocable Letters of Credit

Performance time for completion of this project is One Hundred Twenty (120) calendar days upon issuance of Notice to Proceed. The daily amount of liquidated damages shall be two percent (2%) of the contract price divided by 120 calendar days, the contract time and will be accessed as delays beyond the established completion date.

All bid documents received shall become the sole property of the CNMI Government. The Government reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive any imperfection in a bid proposal that does not affect the elements of price, quantity, and delivery of the bid, in the best interest of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

/s/Virginia C. Villagomez
Governor's Authorized Representative

/s/ Herman S. Sablan, Director
CNMI Procurement & Supply

‘Unaddressed inconsistencies’ led to Roberto acquittal

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

“Unexplained reasonable doubt and unaddressed inconsistencies” led to the acquittal of 50-year-old Andres B. Roberto Jr., who faced charges of sexually abusing a minor on Saipan.

That’s how Superior Court Presiding Judge Roberto C. Naraja explained his May 11 verdict in the Roberto case. He issued a written judgment in the case Thursday last week.

He had found Roberto not guilty of sexual abuse of a minor in the third degree, assault and battery, and disturbing the peace.

In his written judgment, Naraja said the government presented the court with testimony from a number of people, including the girl.

Naraja said both the girl and Roberto testified and that he found both to be believable. However, “due to the conflicting testimony, it was incumbent on the court to examine the entire case, in all its facets, to determine what doubts, if any, remained,” the judge said.

During closing arguments, Naraja noted, defense counsel Joaquin Torres highlighted a number of inconsistencies in the timeline of events.

More particularly, Naraja said, Roberto testified that at about 9pm on April 19, 2016, he headed home to attend to family matters as his sister-in-law recently passed away. Naraja said this completely puts into question Roberto’s whereabouts during the alleged criminal conduct, which purportedly occurred around 10:30pm on April 19, 2016.

The judge said the government’s cross-examination of Roberto did nothing to explore and/or explain this issue.

“The Commonwealth unquestionably needed to rebut the timeline inconsistencies,” he pointed out.

With the investigative arm of the Department of Public Safety and the Office of the Attorney General’s Investigative Unit, the Commonwealth had the resources and the burden to scrutinize Roberto’s timeline, but it did not, Naraja said.

Further, Naraja said, the prosecution decided not to call any rebuttal witnesses, which left a reasonable doubt unexplained.

There were other inconsistencies, he said, that were also left unaddressed by the prosecution.

Thus, he said, the court is compelled to make a finding of “not guilty” because the Commonwealth failed to prove beyond a reasonable doubt that the charged offenses were committed by Roberto.

Assistant attorney general Jonathan Glass Jr. represented the government at the trial.

Police said Roberto allegedly handed $60 for a fundraiser to the 14-year-old girl, hugged her, kissed her on the mouth, squeezed her breast, and rubbed her butt in the back of a house in the evening of April 19, 2016.

The girl said she pushed Roberto away, threw the money at him, and ran into the house.

The next day, the girl told her parents and her aunt about what happened.

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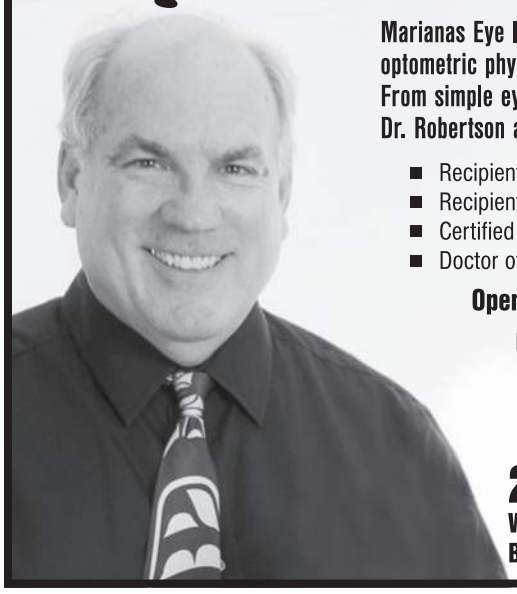

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Women’s Health Month
Your health at every age.

Womenshealth.gov
Office on Women’s Health, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

You’re in your 50s! What can you do to live a healthier life?

Be healthier with one, or all, of the steps below! Get the conversation started at your next well-woman visit with this list. A well-woman visit is a yearly preventive checkup with your doctor. It’s a time to check in on how you’re doing, how you’d like to be doing, and what changes you can make to reach your health goals. In addition to talking with your doctor or nurse about your health, you may also need certain vaccines (shots) and medical tests. You do not need every test every year.

Every Day I Will Try To:

- Eat healthy – go to ChooseMyPlate.gov to get started
- Get at least 30 minutes of physical activity
- Get at least 7 to 8 hours of sleep
- Reach and maintain a healthy weight
- Get help to quit or don’t start smoking
- Limit alcohol use to one drink or less
- Wear a helmet when riding a bike and wear protective gear for sports
- Wear a seatbelt in cars and not text and drive
- Not use illegal drugs or misuse prescription drugs

Talk To My Doctor At Least Once A Year About:

- Menopause symptoms
- My weight, diet and physical activity level
- My tobacco and alcohol use
- Any violence in my life
- Depression and any other mental health concerns
- My family health history, especially my cancer risk

Ask If I Need These Tests, Medicines, or Vaccines This Year:

- Low-dose aspirin
- Blood pressure
- Cholesterol
- Colorectal Cancer
- Diabetes
- Flu
- Hepatitis B and hepatitis C
- HIV
- Lung cancer (55 and older*)
- Mammogram
- Pap and HPV
- Sexually transmitted infections
- Tuberculosis

*The decision to get any medical test or procedure is a personal one between you and your doctor, at any age. These age ranges are suggested by the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force recommendations and may not apply to every person.

These guidelines are based on recommendations from the U.S. Preventive Services (link is external), the Advisory Committee on immunization Practices, the women’s Preventive Services Guidelines, the 2015-2020 Dietary Guidelines for Americans, and the Physical Activity Guidelines for Americans.

For more information, please contact:
Division of Public Health Services - Maternal and Child Health Bureau
Tel #: (670) 664-8703 • Fax #: (670) 236-8700

“This advertisement has been brought to you by the CNMI Maternal and Child Health Bureau through funds by the US Department of Health & Human Services.”

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director

INVITATION FOR BIDS
CUC-IFB-17-024

KAILING DRIVE WATERLINE REPLACEMENT PROJECT, SAIPAN

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified construction firms for the Kailing Drive Waterline Replacement Project, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

This work consists of abandoning the existing 4-inch waterline and replacing it with a new 4 inch C900 PVC pipe. Work will also consist of installing new fire hydrant and gate valve assemblies, reconnection of service laterals to the new water main and replacement of water meter assemblies. Payment is only for the items completely installed and accepted by CUC.

This project is funded through a grant from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA). The award of this project is contingent upon receipt of approval for project award from USEPA.

CUC requires the Project to be completed in **120 calendar days** from date of award of contract.

Prospective Bidders must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division. The Bid Package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of $50.00 (non-refundable) for one IFB package set.

A Pre-Bid Conference followed by a Site Visit is scheduled on **May 17, 2017 at 10:00 AM (ChST)** at the CUC Main Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Room No.17, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building.

One (1) original and Five (5) hard copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked **"CUC-IFB-17-024, CUC Kailing Drive Waterline Replacement Project, Saipan",** to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, **no later than 10:00 AM (ChST) on May 31 , 2017,** at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered. Bid shall be submitted on the provided Bid Forms. Bidders are required to complete all Bid Forms.

Bidders may supplement the form as appropriate. Bids will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 60 days after submission.

Bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid under the contract.

A *Bid Guarantee* of fifteen (15%) percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. A *Payment Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent and a *Performance Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). *Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.*

Bidders are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations.

All questions or request for clarification regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than **4:00 PM (ChST) on May 19, 2017** to Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Administrator, via email – manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Joel Puyat, CUC Water/Wastewater Engineer – via email joel.puyat@cucgov.org and Marcela Tenorio, CUC Purchasing Technician- via email marcela.tenorio@cucgov.org

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids and waive any imperfection in the bid proposal in the best interest of the government. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

GARY CAMACHO
Executive Director

MANNY B. SABLAN
Purchasing Administrator

BEA CABRERA

The Saipan International School Class of 2017.

3 lead SIS' graduating class

By BEA CABRERA
REPORTER

Saipan International School's Class of 2017 is noteworthy because three students have been named to the top of the class: class valedictorian Emily Li Frink and class salutatorians Natalie Diane Hardt and Cerinn Hwang.

The three honorees led the school's commencement ceremony for its high school students last Saturday, May 20, 2017, at the Royal Taga Hall of the Saipan World Resort. The 30 successful graduates were all present to march and receive their diplomas.

In his speech, SIS headmaster Ron Snyder said the members of the Class of 2017 "are special men and women who engaged and excelled in ambitious academic programs. Graduation from high school is the first step on a long road, it is ending your life as a child and the beginning of you life as an adult."

EMILY LI FRINK
Valedictorian

NATALIE DIANE HARDT
Salutatorian

CERINN HWANG
Salutatorian

Frink, who also got advanced placement honors, will go to the University of Washington. Snyder described Frink as "not your typical" valedictorian; she is known by her classmates as nonchalant, laid-back and "chill."

Hardt is going to Pepperdine University, while Hwang is going to the University of Pennsylvania.

SIS HS team leader Keith Tessen described Hardt as a diligent worker, reflected in her superb GPA, and a fantastic writer.

Hwang was also accepted into the Benjamin Franklin scholar program, an impressive achievement for an incoming freshman and the one and only National Merit Scholar in the CNMI.

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
CUC-RFP-17-030

MAUI SHAFT WELLS REHABILITATION PROJECT, SAIPAN, CNMI

The Office of the Executive Director for the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed proposals from qualified firms to develop the method and perform the construction work to remove the cave in soil material in the Maui 4 Shaft Well tunnel and rehabilitate the existing buildings, platforms, shaft, electrical components, mechanical lift system and all other items listed in the scope of work for the Maui 1 and 4 shaft wells. Payment is only for the items completely installed and accepted by CUC. The duration of the contract is **375 calendar days** from date of award.

This project is funded by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA). The award of this project is contingent upon receipt of approval for project award from the above mentioned funding agencies.

The RFP Package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of $200.00 (non-refundable) for one RFP package set. The RFP package consisting of the specifications and plans for the project, will be provided in a CD or emailed to the registered email ID. Prospective Proposers must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division.

A Pre-proposal Conference will be conducted at the CUC Main Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Room 17, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Dandan, Saipan on **May 25, 2017 at 10:00 AM (ChST).** Immediately after the conference, a Site Visit to the Maui Shaft Wells facility will be conducted. Proposers shall familiarize themselves with the site conditions prior to submitting the proposal.

One (1) original and four (4) hard copies, along with an electronic copy of the proposal on a compact disk in PDF format must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked *"CUC-RFP-17-030 –Maui Shaft Wells Rehabilitation Project"* to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, **no later than June 12, 2017 at 10:00 AM (ChST).** Late submissions and conditional proposals will not be considered.

A *Proposal Guarantee* of fifteen (15%) percent of the total proposal price must accompany the proposals. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or proposal bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. A *Payment Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent and a *Performance Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful Proposer. The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety.

Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, for the protection of all persons supplying labor and material to the contractor or its subcontractors for the performance of the work provided for in the contract.

All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). *Proposers are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.*

Discussions may be conducted with responsible offerors who submit proposals determined to be reasonably susceptible of being selected for award for the purpose of clarification and to ensure full understanding of and responsiveness to solicitation requirements. Offerors shall be accorded fair and equal treatment with respect to any opportunity to discussion and revision of proposals, and such revision may be permitted after submission and prior to award for the purpose of obtaining the best and final offers. During discussions, there will be no disclosure of any information derived from proposals submitted by competing offerors.

All Offeror are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the Offeror due to lack of information or understanding of the proposal requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a proposal or supply under the contract. The RFP does not commit CUC to award a contract, to pay any cost incurred in the preparation of the proposal under this request, or to procure or contract for services. Offeror are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed as per the CUC Procurement Regulations.

All responses to this RFP should take into account any and all taxes, including excise tax, which will become the obligation of the proponent awarded a contract. Successful proponents will be required to submit a copy of a valid CNMI Business license in compliance with the Contractor's Registration and Licensing Laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, upon award of the contract. The Contractor and all subcontractors will be obligated to pay wage rates not less than the current CNMI minimum wage, prevailing through the period of contract, as indicated in the web page: https://marianaslabor.net/. The proponents shall be required to comply with all applicable CNMI and Federal Laws.

Questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from pre-registered prospective proposers and must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on May 30, 2017** to Manny B. Sablan, Jr. CUC Purchasing Administrator via email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to LCDR Travis Spaeth P.E. CUC Water-Wastewater Senior Engineer via email address travis.spaeth@cucgov.org and Marcela Tenorio, CUC Purchasing Assistant via email address Marcela.Tenorio@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all proposals for any reason and to waive any defects in said proposal, if in its sole opinion, to do so would be in the best interest of CUC. All proposals shall become the property of CUC.

GARY P. CAMACHO
Executive Director

MANNY B. SABLAN, Jr.
Purchasing Administrator

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
CUC-RFP-17-032

SUPPLY & DELIVERY OF ENGINE LUBE OILS FOR POWER GENERATION

The Office of the Executive Director for the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed proposals from qualified firms for the supply and delivery of engine lubricating oils for CUC Power Generation facilities on Saipan and Rota for the period starting September 01, 2017 through August 30, 2020.

The RFP Package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of $200.00 (non-refundable) for one RFP package set. The RFP package consisting of the specifications and scope-of-service will be provided in a CD or emailed to the registered email ID. Prospective Proposers must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division.

A Pre-proposal Conference will be conducted at the CUC Main Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Room 17, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Dandan, Saipan on **June 1, 2017 at 10:00 AM (ChST)**.

One (1) original and five (5) hard copies, along with an electronic copy of the proposal on a compact disk in PDF format must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked *"CUC-RFP-17-032, Supply & Delivery Of Engine Lube Oils for Power Generation"* to the **CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building**, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **June 23, 2017 at 10:00 AM (ChST)**. Late submissions and conditional proposals will not be considered.

Discussions may be conducted with responsible offerors who submit proposals determined to be reasonably susceptible of being selected for award for the purpose of clarification and to ensure full understanding of and responsiveness to solicitation requirements. Offerors shall be accorded fair and equal treatment with respect to any opportunity to discussion and revision of proposals, and such revision may be permitted after submission and prior to award for the purpose of obtaining the best and final offers. During discussions, there will be no disclosure of any information derived from proposals submitted by competing offerors.

All Offeror are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the Offeror due to lack of information or understanding of the proposal requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a proposal or supply under the contract. The RFP does not commit CUC to award a contract, to pay any cost incurred in the preparation of the proposal under this request, or to procure or contract for services. Offeror are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed as per the CUC Procurement Regulations. The contract may be subject to the approval CPUC and will not be effective until receipt of such approval.

All responses to this RFP should take into account any and all taxes, including excise tax, which will become the obligation of the proponent awarded a contract. Successful proponents will be required to submit a copy of a valid CNMI Business license in compliance with the Contractor's Registration and Licensing Laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, upon award of the contract.

Questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from pre-registered prospective proposers and must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on June 5, 2017** to Manny B. Sablan, Jr. , CUC Purchasing Administrator via email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Venugopal Prabhakara, Utility Coordinator for Power via email venugopal.prabhakara@cucgov.org and Antonio Castro, CUC Chief Financial Officer via email antonio.castro@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all proposals for any reason and to waive any defects in said proposal, if in its sole opinion, to do so would be in the best interest of CUC. All proposals shall become the property of CUC.

GARY P. CAMACHO
Executive Director

MANNY B. SABLAN, JR.
Purchasing Administrator

Pacifica offers $10K as TOC hole-in-one prize

Add $10,000 more to the already impressive list of prizes that may be won at the 22nd Annual Tournament of Champions. Pacific Insurance Underwriters announced Friday that it is participating in the golf tournament by sponsoring the large cash award as a hole-in-one prize on both days of the tournament.

"The Governor's Tournament of Champions has been highly successful [in] raising funds that benefit beautification projects throughout the island," said Shirley Sablan, executive vice president and general manager of Pacifica Insurance. "It's exciting to be able to take part in a tournament whose purpose is to deliver positive, impactful changes in our community."

"The resources we share with the TOC and other non-profit organizations reflect our commitment to this community and I commend all businesses that do the same," Sablan added.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Pacifica Insurance is offering $10,000 as a hole-in-one prize for the upcoming Governor's Tournament of Champions that will be held on May 27 and 28, 2017.From left, Pacifica Insurance's Jessica Sablan; TOC committee members Marie Sablan and Surina Reyes; TOC tournament director Ben Babauta; Pacifica Insurance's Gederryn Domingo, Tess Gella, and Samantha Sikayun; and Pacifica Insurance executive vice president and general manager Shirley Sablan.

"The Tournament of Champions credits its long-standing success to the generosity of companies like Pacifica Insurance," said Ben Babauta, tournament director. "Our optimism continues to grow knowing companies like Pacifica are committed to our cause."

The 22nd Governor's Tournament of Champions will be played at the Laolao Bay Golf & Resort's east and west courses on May 27 and 28. The two-day event is bigger and better than ever with exciting hole-in-one prizes and the chance to win thousands of dollars in possible prizes. The TOC tournament fee is $200.

Winners in the Men's Championship, A, B, C, Senior and Super Senior flights will each receive $500, $400, $300, a digital camera, and $100 DFS gift certificate for the first to fifth place, respectively. The Ladies Low Gross winners will receive $500, $400, and $300 for first to third place, respectively. The first, second, and third place winners of the Ladies Low Net will each receive a trophy.

There will be hundreds of thousands worth of prizes that will be at stake in the two-day tournament, including hole-in-one prizes that include a brand new 2017 Honda Civic hatchback donated by Joeten Motors, a brand new 2017 Hyundai Grand Santa Fe donated by Triple J Motors, a brand new 2017 Limited Edition 50th Anniversary Toyota Corolla donated by Atkins Kroll Toyota, a $5,000 hole-in-one cash prize donated by McDonald's Saipan, and one year of free golf donated by Saipan Laolao Bay Golf & Resort.

Since its inception, TOC has turned over more than $800,000 to the Saipan Beautification Fund, which has gone directly to improvements like the tree-lined traffic medians that stretch from Garapan to the Kensington, as well as the revitalization of the Garapan special district. In addition, the Governor's TOC also contributed funds for the Paseo de Marianas, the lighting of the Saipan Beach Road pathway, and the beautification of the Port-to-Park pathway.

For more information about sponsorship opportunities for the 2017 TOC, contact Babauta at 483-2563. For player information and to download the registration form, visit www.tocSaipan.com. ***(PR)***

CHONG'S CORP. DONATION

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Chong's Corp. donated $2,500 in cash to the upcoming Governor's Tournament of Champions on May 27 and 28, 2017, at the Laolao Bay Golf & Resort. Joanna Pai, president of Chong's Corp., third from left, presents the check donation to Marida Pensader, TOC committee member, third from right. Also in photo are representatives of Chong's Corp.

Commonwealth Zoning Board

Special Board Meeting
Agenda
Thursday, May 25, 2017
10:00 AM, Zoning Board Conference Room
Tel: 234-9661 • Fax: 234-9666 •
www.zoning.gov.mp

A. Preliminary Matters
1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Adoption of Agenda
4. Adoption of 4/27/17 special board meeting minutes
5. Public Comments

B. New Business:
C. Old Business:
1. Proposed text and map amendments to the Saipan Zoning Law of 2013

D. Miscellaneous
a. Other Matters
b. Announcements
c. Next Meeting

E. Adjourn

For questions or access to materials to be considered at the Board meeting, or if you require assistance, please contact the Zoning Administrator, Therese T. Ogumoro, at 234-9661. This notice is provided pursuant to Public Law 6-32, as amended (2 CMC 7201, et seq. & 10 CMC 3511, et seq.).

/s/ Diego C. Blanco, Zoning Board Chairman

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Opinion

Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
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The Associated Press | Pacific Islands News Association

EDITORIAL

And now, a special counsel. How Trump still could save his disaster-prone presidency

The best Donald Trump can hope for over time is that "10 days in May" becomes shorthand for the darkest period of his presidency, when hubris, incompetence and scandal damaged but did not engulf him.

In this theoretical scenario, the Justice Department's appointment of former FBI Director Robert Mueller as a special counsel Wednesday evening would catch the president's attention: Whoa, this is serious. He would soon acknowledge that he is in crisis. He recognizes he is ill-equipped to manage the political, ethical and legal nuances of governance. He replaces bungling staffers with a savvier team. He listens. He heeds their advice on issues of substance and style. He focuses on the agenda he was elected to pursue. And in the end he survives the intensifying probe of ties between Russian interests and his campaign.

That would be the Hollywood version of Trump's recovery from this disaster-movie period in the White House.

The more likely scenario: There will be plenty more catastrophes to come because the president lacks judgment and discipline. If nothing changes, Trump's character flaws eventually will destroy his effectiveness as president. He'll either wither on the job, accomplishing little, or be driven from office.

Trump's 10 days of disarray began on May 9 with his firing of FBI Director James Comey, whose former agency is investigating possible collusion between the Trump campaign and Russia. While Trump had legal authority to dump Comey, the timing made it look like an effort to derail the FBI probe. The White House provided a flimsy cover story in the guise of a Justice Department memo criticizing Comey's handling of the Hillary Clinton email fiasco. By last Thursday, even Trump admitted he was thinking about "this Russia thing" when he fired Comey.

Putin's offer comes after Trump allegedly asked former FBI Director James Comey to end the federal investigation into former national security advisor Michael Flynn. (May 17, 2017) (Sign up for our free video newsletter here)

One day later, with the nation still digesting Comey's dismissal, Trump—improbably—hosted Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov in the Oval Office, where they discussed the terrorist threat posed by Islamic State. Here the president's judgment failed him again. He reportedly shared highly classified intelligence with Lavrov without permission from the source, an unidentified U.S. partner believed to be Israel. It was a clumsy mistake by the president and his team that could provide Russia, an adversary, with useful intelligence info and put undercover operatives in danger. Lavrov should not have been in the West Wing, especially with Russia-related scandal in the wind.

See TRUMP on Page 11

Only the Senate can unravel the Russia story

By JONATHAN BERNSTEIN
Bloomberg View

Jonathan Bernstein is a Bloomberg View columnist. He taught political science at the University of Texas at San Antonio and DePauw University and wrote A Plain Blog About Politics.

The obvious thing about the new special counsel named to investigate the Trump-Russia scandal is that President Trump entirely brought this upon himself—first, by firing FBI Director James Comey, then by claiming it was all the Justice Department's idea, and then by going on TV and linking it to the scandal.

Of course, if press reports are correct and Trump had previously interfered with the investigation, then it's even more a case of a self-inflicted wound. At the very least, Comey's memo wouldn't have become public as soon as it did.

That is, if there was a cover-up going on here, it's Trump himself who undermined it. By Wednesday, there was really just no other choice for Deputy Attorney General Rod Rosenstein, who was confirmed less than a month ago by Republicans and most Democrats as a paragon of law enforcement professionalism. After all, the way Trump initially used him as an excuse for the Comey action made it look as if Rosenstein was in on a cover-up, and appointing an independent investigation was the only way to get himself out of harm's way.

That said: As was the case back in 1973, the price for appointing a special counsel is time. The new office will have to be set up and brought up to speed, and so even if the FBI agents who have been working the case are detailed to Special Counsel Robert Mueller's new team, some delay will be a necessary consequence. Indeed, the history of special counsels is that they take their time. The Iran-Contra independent counsel still had important officials under indictment from the 1986 scandal when George H.W. Bush issued pardons in 1992; the most recent special counsel, who investigated the Plame affair, took about four years to get a conviction of Scooter Libby.

And the biggest limitation of special counsels is that they are set up to, well, prosecute people for specific crimes. That's important in this case for two reasons. First, because some of the accusations against Trump are not necessarily criminal violations, even though they would be (if true) violations abuses of power or otherwise impeachable offenses. And second, because this scandal has important public policy components—about Russian interference in U.S. elections—which need a thorough examination even if there is no wrongdoing by any Americans at all.

In other words: Congress still needs to be involved. And a Senate select committee is still the best option. Right now, multiple House and Senate committees are calling witnesses and holding hearings on different aspects of the case. That's okay, but it's unlikely to get to the bottom of things. Only a fully-staffed select committee dedicated to the questions raised by this scandal can do that. Here's what it could look like, as I wrote in March:

It should be small, like the seven-member Watergate Senate Select Committee, and given sufficient budget, staff, and scope to fully explore both the general topic of Russian interference in the 2016 election and the actions of the Trump campaign and associates of Trump. A 4-3 split would be acceptable, as long as the Republicans have a reputation for independence; an example might be Ben Sasse of Nebraska as Chair, with Tennessee's Lamar Alexander, Maine's Susan Collins, and South Carolina's Lindsey Graham as members.

Such a committee could call witnesses in a rational order in order to lay out the full story, and could organize the testimony so that the story is as coherent as possible.

Why Senate and not House? Because there are several sufficiently independent Republican Senators that a committee could be credible, and because frankly the odds of the House acting are very small anyway. Not a joint committee, as was used during Iran-Contra, because as Watergate demonstrated smaller committees are better—we don't need two days of opening statements by dozens of politicians looking to break through and make their name this way. And not a commission, for the reasons Susan Hennessey and Benjamin Wittes explain here, not the least of which is that a commission requires legislation which the president could veto while a select committee only requires one chamber to pass a resolution.

I should add: We still don't know what if anything really happened that rises to deserve criminal charges, resignations, or other such consequences. On the other hand, it's also possible that there's an ongoing cover-up of things only the wildest theories so far have speculated about. All we really can say is that the Trump Administration can't be trusted to investigate itself. Not after the news of this last week.

So the next big question is whether independent Republicans will continue to put pressure on Congress, and especially the Senate, to act. Only with both the special counsel and a congressional investigation in place will Congress demonstrate its commitment to the rule of law, whatever the investigators may find.

EDITORIAL POLICY Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

The house that Roger Ailes built is sliding

By RAMESH PONNURU
Bloomberg View

Ramesh Ponnuru is a Bloomberg View columnist. He is a senior editor of National Review and the author of The Party of Death: The Democrats, the Media, the Courts, and the Disregard for Human Life.

Roger Ailes's death comes at a time of turmoil in conservative journalism—turmoil caused in no small part by Ailes's own success in making Fox News into a media-political juggernaut.

Charles Krauthammer, one of Fox's commentators, jokes that Ailes saw the opportunity to serve a niche market of half the country. The point of the quip is that the major networks had a liberal outlook and millions of Americans wanted something else.

But Ailes also saw that what these Americans wanted wasn't only or even primarily ideological conservatism, whether of the free-market or traditional-religious varieties. What they wanted was nationalism. My National Review colleague Jonah Goldberg, also a Fox commentator, made the point well in a 2004 column. During World War II, Ernie Pyle won the Pulitzer Prize while wearing a military uniform and writing from an unabashedly pro-American point of view. Decades later, distinguished journalists were debating whether it would be ethical to warn American troops about an impending attack. A lot of Americans preferred the older attitude, and a network where anchors saw no problem with wearing a flag pin was for them.

Fox was nationalist before it was conservative, and in that sense it was Trumpist before Trump. In retrospect, what's amazing is not that the network eventually threw in behind Trump wholeheartedly. It's that it agonized over it as long as it did.

Ailes stepped down last year amid scandal: He was accused of sexually harassing and abusing many women. Reports of a toxic sexual culture at the network had a certain credibility given the way it presented women on-camera. Fox News prefers smart women, but the disparity between how attractive it wants them to be and how attractive it wants its men to be is even more pronounced than it is at other networks. In this respect, too, Ailes knew his audience.

But scandal is not the only problem Fox is now facing. It is slipping in the ratings among the 25- to 54-year-olds advertisers want to reach. Joe Scarborough, who hosts a show on MSNBC, which is gaining in those same ratings, has a plausible two-part theory for why the ranking is changing: Conservatives have gotten less interested in politics and liberals more so since Trump took office; and Fox is hardly covering the controversies surrounding the president.

Earlier this week the Washington Post reported that President Trump may have pressured former FBI Director James Comey to go easy in his investigation of former Trump aide Michael Flynn. CNN and MSNBC went all-in on the story that day. Fox News found the time to run a segment about the Clinton Foundation.

It's not a bad thing to have one network making different coverage decisions from the others. Fox was built to wrest control of the news agenda from CBS, the New York Times, and other outlets that reflected more liberal priorities. Coverage of Comey at other places has sometimes been breathless. But there is a line between exercising editorial judgment and trying to create an alternative reality.

Fox is under a lot of pressure to fall on the wrong side of that line. We have a president who is fairly unpopular with the public at large but very popular with the network's core audience. It can try to defend him or attack his critics. But it's not surprising that Fox is tempted to respond to its situation by just not covering the news.

TRUMP

From Page 10

Russians-in-the-White House remained Trump's biggest headache of this week ... but only until Tuesday afternoon. That's when the saga turned back toward Comey. News broke that, in February, Trump allegedly asked Comey to drop the part of the Russia investigation focused on former national security adviser Michael Flynn. Trump supposedly didn't demand action, but he wheedled for it. Trump said Flynn is "a good guy. I hope you can let this go," Comey wrote in a confidential memo cited by The New York Times. Taken together with his decision to fire Comey, it appears Trump can't grasp why a president must avoid the appearance of meddling in ongoing investigations.

And now, a special counsel.

Mueller is widely respected by Democrats and Republicans in Washington. We expect that he'll essentially oversee the FBI's work, determine where to look for possible wrongdoing and decide whether charges are warranted.

Beyond that probe of possible Russian collusion with Trump associates, House and Senate committees also are investigating. These quests will play out over time. While the appointment of a special counsel always raises the profile of an investigation, it doesn't necessarily change how FBI or other federal agents operate. Whatever their trajectory, Trump had better stay out of the way. That's elemental advice we shouldn't have to provide to a president.

Trump's challenge is that, down to his bones, he is an entrepreneur and sales guy who believes in the big pitch. Details matter less. His skills won the presidency but don't translate to leadership of the country. Democrats are out to get him, but he helps them by making these unforced errors due to his rash temperament and inexperience.

In the White House, he is a captive of his own ego, unable to admit he needs help to manage the immense job of being president. His hastily proposed immigration ban, haphazardly issued during his first week in office, remains hung up in the courts. His Mexican wall is more punch line than possibility. Now the Comey and Russia stories. What goes wrong next? Skepticism like that kills a president's brand.

These 10 days are squandered time. The arrival of a special counsel will further consume him and his White House. When he's doing damage control, Trump isn't campaigning for tax reform, rethinking the future of America's urban centers or managing the North Korea nuclear threat. And every moment counts: He needs an immediate reboot. He needs new staff, a new perspective and an end to the self-inflicted wounds dragging him down.

(c)2017 *Chicago Tribune*

In the Trump era, we need to trust the media, but can we?

By CYNTHIA M. ALLEN
Fort Worth Star-Telegram

Cynthia M. Allen is a columnist for the Fort Worth Star-Telegram. *Readers may send her email at cmallen@star-telegram.com.*

Unless you were hiding under a rock for the entirety of 2016, you knew that the first year of Donald Trump's presidency was going to be rocky.

But no one could anticipate it would get quite this bad this quickly.

Just over 100 days into Donald Trump's presidency, FBI Director James Comey has been fired and allegations that before his removal, the president tried to dissuade him from continuing his investigation into the ousted National Security Advisor have dominated headlines for days.

On account of said media pressure, a special prosecutor was appointed to investigate alleged collusion between Russia and the Trump campaign.

But even before his work has begun, major news organizations are publishing articles indicting the president for all manner of high crimes and misdemeanors, largely based on information from anonymous sources and interminable White House leaks.

We've heard the phrases "constitutional crisis" and "obstruction of justice" tossed around almost casually by lawmakers, who seem to show about as much interest in actually governing as the man they are criticizing.

And pundits on both sides of the political spectrum, caught up in the circus, are calling for Trump's impeachment or for the invocation of the 25th amendment, both of which could result in Trump's removal from office—what many of them have been dreaming about since his inauguration.

I would shed no tears in seeing Trump unceremoniously removed from the White House, if he were indeed guilty of actions that warranted his removal.

Even without these new accusations, he's proved himself to be untrustworthy, unfit and motivated almost solely by his own ego.

But in their unceasing attempts to destroy Trump and vindicate their own (often totally valid) opinions about him without the support of facts and evidence, so have many members of the media.

And just like Trump, their behavior has made them difficult to trust.

That is perhaps the biggest tragedy of the Trump presidency.

Like many Americans who live and work outside of the Washington beltway, the willingness of so many in the media to get ahead of the facts is all too familiar.

I recall with great clarity how media witch hunts, which began much like those we see today, ended the political careers of several members of the Bush administration, including Attorney General Alberto Gonzales, who was totally vindicated by a special prosecutor in 2010.

I worked for the Justice Department at the time and remember how readily reporters printed accusations of wrongdoing without verifying sources or seeking alternative theories, let alone checking their sources.

To this day, internet searches of the former attorney general still turn up stories filled with allegations of criminal wrongdoing.

His exoneration is barely a footnote.

So it's hard for me, even as a Trump critic, to consider reports by major news agencies with much less skepticism than I consider Trump's twitter feed.

All Americans deserve to learn the truth, no matter what it reveals.

At this point, untangling fact from fiction, free of prejudice, should be the top priority of the fourth estate.

After all, many members of the media claimed to feel a renewed sense of responsibility to accurately and comprehensively report facts and events after their collective failure to appropriately cover and analyze the 2016 election cycle.

And if things are as bad as their breathless reporting suggests, the verifiable truth will be revealed soon enough and through a thorough investigative process.

A credible media will wait for those answers before rushing to conclusions and printing speculation as fact.

And a thoughtful populace will demand it is so.

Reason's Nick Gillespie writes that if we are going to survive the Trump era, "we're going to have become smarter media consumers and demand more from both our politicians and the press."

He's correct.

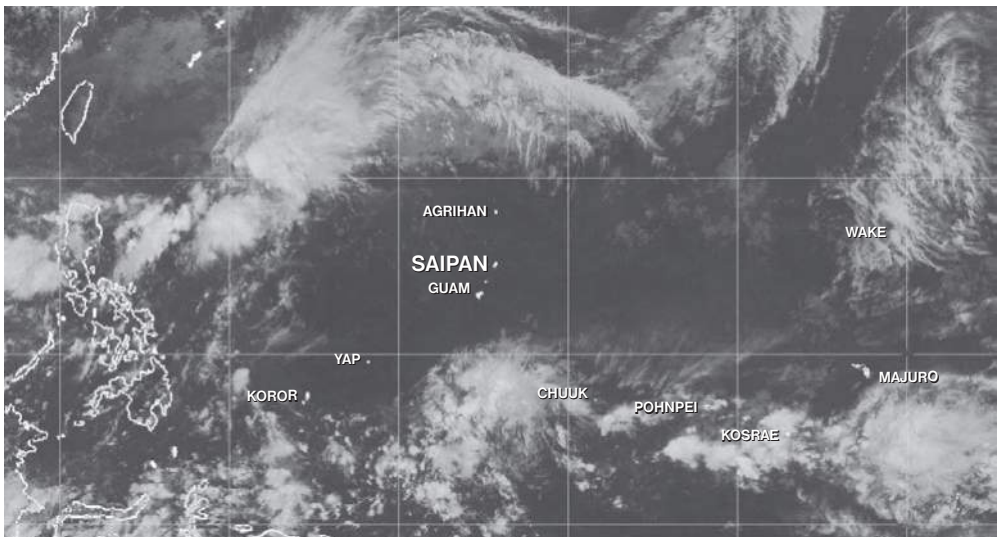
In the era of Trump, that will be difficult to accomplish but more necessary than ever.

The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN

TODAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers	Partly cloudy with isolated showers	Partly cloudy with isolated showers
▲88° ▼78°	▲88° ▼78°	▲90° ▼70°	▲90° ▼70°	▲90° ▼70°

YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE



PICTURE TIME: 6:10 AM, MONDAY, MAY 19, 2017
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A very dry trade-wind pattern will continue across the Marianas through the week. Latest model guidance shows this dry pattern with total rainfall amounts of less than one quarter inch through the next week. Increasing cloud cover to the east of the Marianas is associated with a very weak disturbance approaching the islands. Latest time-height data shows this increase in moisture, though a little later in the period than the forecast shows. Decided to push the mostly cloudy wording forward to Monday morning as the disturbance approaches but the added cloud cover could be delayed a little longer due to limited mid-level moisture. Also chose to drop slight chance wording for showers around mid week. This could still occur from Tuesday on through the end of the weekend, though periods of isolated showers are likely through that time. Therefore, chose to keep showers isolated for the entire forecast.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

MICRONESIA		▲ ▼ °F
Guam and Rota	Sunny	89 | 81 °F
Palau	Thunderstorms	85 | 78 °F
Yap	Partly cloudy	86 | 74 °F
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	87 | 81 °F
Pohnpei	Thunderstorms	85 | 80 °F
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	85 | 81 °F
Majuro	Thunderstorms	85 | 81 °F

AROUND THE GLOBE		▲ ▼ °F
Auckland	Sunny	58 | 47 °F
Beijing	Partly cloudy	89 | 75 °F
Hong Kong	Cloudy	81 | 77 °F
Honolulu	Partly cloudy	82 | 73 °F
London	Cloudy	72 | 56 °F
Los Angeles	Mostly sunny	84 | 62 °F
Manila	Thunderstorms	88 | 79 °F
Melbourne	Rain	63 | 54 °F
Miami	Sunny	85 | 76 °F
New York	Rain	72 | 57 °F
Osaka	Sunny	79 | 58 °F
Paris	Sunny	70 | 52 °F
Pusan	Mostly sunny	88 | 62 °F
Rome	Sunny	82 | 57 °F
Salem	Mostly Sunny	72 | 47 °F
San Francisco	Sunny	72 | 52 °F
Seoul	Sunny	84 | 60 °F
Tokyo	Partly cloudy	80 | 65 °F
Washington, DC	Thunderstorms	76 | 58 °F

NMI CRIME STOPPERS
Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:
- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.net

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY		FEET
4:27 AM	HIGH TIDE	1.97
11:08 AM	LOW TIDE	0.43
5:01 PM	HIGH TIDE	1.62
10:53 PM	LOW TIDE	0.55

DAY	SUNRISE	SUNSET
Today	5:46 AM	6:40 PM
Tuesday	5:46 AM	6:40 PM
Wednesday	5:46 AM	6:41 PM
Thursday	5:46 AM	6:41 PM
Friday	5:46 AM	6:41 PM

DAY	MOONRISE	MOONSET	MOONRISE
Today	2:39 AM	3:03 PM	-
Tuesday	3:25 AM	4:01 PM	-
Wednesday	4:13 AM	5:02 PM	-
Thursday	5:05 AM	6:05 PM	-
Friday	6:01 AM	7:09 PM	-

NEWS DESK For news tips, corrections and requests for news coverage, call (670) 235-NEWS (6397), 235-2440, fax 235,3740. E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com. Website:www.saipantribune.com.

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E-mail: sales@saipantribune.com

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF MARCH 25, 2017

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)

UA6394	4:15am	5:05am	Daily
UA6392	8:40am	9:30am	Daily
UA6391	1:30pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7 via Rota
UA6390	2:20pm	3:10pm	2, 3, 6
UA6398	6:05pm	6:55pm	Daily
UA6396	9:50pm	10:40pm	Daily

SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)

UA6391	1:30pm	2:05pm	1, 4, 5, 7

ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)

UA6391	2:35pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)

DL297	4:15pm	7:05pm	Daily

SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)

TW308	2:35am	6:25am	Daily
OZ626	2:10am	6:00am	1
OZ626	2:50am	6:40am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
7C3403	4:35am	8:30am	Daily
LJ652	3:10pm	7:05pm	Daily
7C3401	4:30pm	8:25pm	Daily
ZE582	4:25pm	8:35pm	Daily

SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)

7C3451	2:55am	6:10am	1, 7
OZ608	3:10am	6:20am	4, 7
7C3451	3:15am	6:30am	4, 5

SAIPAN-JEJU (CJU)

7C3433	3:55am	7:30am	3, 7

SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)

3U8648	5:20am	8:00am	1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)

MU764	1:30am	6:50am	3, 5, 7

SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)

3U8646	4:30am	7:50am	2, 6

SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)

OZ626/701	2:10am	10:50am	1 via ICN
OZ626/701	2:50am	10:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA6394/191	4:15am	9:00am	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
UA6394/PR111	4:15am	9:30am	Daily via GUM
UA6391/183	1:30pm	9:30pm	5 via Rota-GUM
UA6391/183	1:30pm	9:50pm	1, 4, 7 via Rota-GUM
UA6391/193	1:30pm	11:10pm	5 via Rota-GUM-ROR
UA6390/183	2:20pm	9:30pm	2 via GUM
UA6390/183	2:20pm	9:50pm	3, 6 via GUM
UA6390/193	2:20pm	11:10pm	2 via GUM-ROR

SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)

UO43	4:40am	8:10am	1, 3, 4, 6
HX077	2:15am	5:15am	1, 4
OZ626/721	2:10am	11:50am	1 via ICN
OZ626/721	2:50am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA6391/159	1:30pm	10:35pm	1, 5 via Rota-GUM
UA6390/159	2:20pm	10:35pm	3, 6 via GUM

ARRIVALS

GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN

UA6393	2:45am	3:35am	Daily
UA6395	7:15am	8:05am	Daily
UA6391	12:10pm	1:00pm	1, 4, 5, 7
UA6390	12:10pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6 via Rota
UA6397	4:45pm	5:35pm	Daily
UA6399	8:30pm	9:20pm	Daily

GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)

UA6390	12:10pm	12:45pm	2, 3, 6

ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN

UA6390	1:15pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6

NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN

DL298	10:25am	2:55pm	Daily

SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN

LJ651	8:25am	1:45pm	Daily
ZE581	10:15am	3:35pm	Daily
7C3402	10:10am	3:30pm	Daily
OZ625	7:40pm	1:00am+1	7
TW307	8:15pm	1:35am+1	Daily
OZ625	8:20pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
7C3404	10:10pm	3:30am+1	Daily

BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN

7C3452	8:30pm	1:20am+1	6, 7
OZ607	9:00pm	1:50am+1	3, 6
7C3452	9:35pm	2:15am+1	3, 4

JEJU (CJU)-SAIPAN

7C3434	10:05pm	2:40am+1	2, 6

SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN

3U8647	10:20pm	4:30am+1	3, 4, 6, 7

BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN

MU763	4:40pm	12:30am+1	2, 4, 6

GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN

3U8645	7:50pm	2:40am+1	1, 5

MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN

UA190/6397	9:55am	5:35pm	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
OZ702/625	12:30pm	1:00am+1	7 via ICN
OZ702/625	12:30pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
PR110/UA6395	10:05pm	8:05am+1	Daily via GUM
UA192/6395	10:20pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via ROR-GUM
UA184/6395	10:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA184/6395	11:55pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via GUM

HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN

OZ722/625	1:15pm	1:00am+1	7 via ICN
OZ722/625	1:15pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
HX076	5:50pm	12:45am+1	3, 7
UO42	4:50pm	12:05am+1	2, 6
UO42	6:05pm	1:10am+1	1
UO42	6:10pm	1:10am+1	4
UA116/6395	9:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U Sichuan Airlines, 7C Jeju Air, DL Delta Airlines, UO HK Express, HX HongKong Airlines, LJ Jin Air, MU China Eastern, OZ Asiana Airlines, TW t'way Air, UA United Airlines, ZE Eastar Jet, PR PAL Express; ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. *(The* Saipan Tribune *is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)*

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

TINIAN TO SAIPAN

DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
6:30AM	6:45AM	Mon, Tue, Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
7:30AM	7:45AM	Daily
8:30AM	8:45AM	Daily
9:30AM	9:45AM	Daily
10:30AM	10:45AM	Daily
11:30AM	11:45AM	Daily
12:30NN	12:45NN	Daily
1:30PM	1:45PM	Daily
2:30PM	2:45PM	Daily
3:30PM	3:45PM	Daily
4:30PM	4:45PM	Daily
5:30PM	5:45PM	Daily
6:30PM	6:45PM	Daily
6:30PM	6:45PM	Daily

SAIPAN TO TINIAN

DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
7:00AM	7:15AM	Daily
8:00AM	8:15AM	Daily
9:00AM	9:15AM	Daily
10:00AM	10:15AM	Daily
11:00AM	11:15AM	Daily
12:00NN	12:15NN	Daily
1:00PM	1:15PM	Daily
2:00PM	2:15PM	Daily
3:00PM	3:15PM	Daily
4:00PM	4:15PM	Daily
5:00PM	5:15PM	Daily
6:00PM	6:15PM	Daily

SAIPAN TO ROTA

DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
7:45AM	8:15AM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
4:00PM	4:30PM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat

ROTA TO SAIPAN

DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
8:30AM	9:00AM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
4:45PM	5:15PM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat

Chacha Oceanview inducts 28 to nat'l honor society

Education Commissioner Cynthia Deleon Guerrero, Gov. Ralph DLG Torres, and first lady Diann T. Torres joined Chacha Oceanview Junior High School principal Vince Dela Cruz in celebrating the induction ceremony for 28 students into the National Junior Honor Society.

The other group of successful Chacha Oceanview Junior High School students inducted to the National Junior Honor Society.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Ku'liana Sablan and her family are congratulated by Education Commissioner Cynthia Deleon Guerrero.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres poses for a photo for 6th grader Lucio Aldan, who was inducted into the National Junior Honor Society.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Juneya Quitano, 6th grade, one of the successful inductees.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Niah Deleon Guerrero was one of the 10 incumbent National Junior Honor Society members who were honored last Friday.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Some of the 28 successful inductees to the National Junior Honor Society.

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres, Chacha Oceanview Junior High School principal Vince Dela Cruz, Education Commissioner Cynthia Deleon Guerrero, and first lady Diann T. Torres congratulate student KaiAna Fitial Piteg.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Gerald C. Borja
788-2907
Pro se

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

In The Matter Of The Adoption Of: N.N.T & N.N.T Minor Child By: Geralds C. Borja Petitioner(s)	FCD-AD-CIVIL-ACTION NO. 17-0236 NOTICE OF HEARING

Notice is hereby given that the above-entitled matter is set for a hearing on 25th day of May 2017 at 10:30 AM in Courtroom 205A, before Honorable Judge Govendo

Dated this 18th day of May, 2017

/s/
By: Patrick V. Diaz,
Deputy Clerk of Court

ROBERT T. TORRES, ESQ.
Attorney at Law
P.O. Box 503758 CK
Plata Drive, Whispering Palms
(Chalan Kiya)
Saipan, MP 96950
Tel.: 234-7859
Fax: 234-5750
Attorney for Petitioner
Armando Villafuerte

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF ANGELINA BORJA PEREDO aka ANGELINA P. RIOS, Deceased.	CIVIL ACTION NO. 16-0252 NOTICE OF CONDITIONAL APPOINTMENT OF CO-ADMINISTRATRIX

TO: THE SURVIVING HEIRS OF ANGELINA BORJA PEREDO aka ANGELINA P. RIOS, SPECIFICALLY MELINDA T. HOSSAIN AND ANNIE R. TOKYO

This Notice of Conditional Appointment of Co-Administratrix is hereby served upon you by publication to notify you that the Court has conditionally appointed Hilda V. Rios to serve a Co-Administratrix in the above estate. Any objection to this appointment must be made within five weeks of the date of May 2, 2017. To the Law Office of Robert Torres, Plata Drive, Chalan Kiya, P.O. Box 503758, Saipan, MP 96950, Tel.: (670) 234-7859), Fax: (670) 234-5750.

Dated this 12th day of May, 2017.

/s/ Clerk of Court/Deputy Clerk of Court

TINIAN CASINO GAMING CONTROL COMMISSION
Municipality of Tinian and Aguiguan
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to 1 CMC § 9910(a), the Tinian Casino Gaming Control Commission (TCGCC) hereby gives notice that it will hold its Regular Meeting on Friday, May 26, 2017, at 9:00 a.m. at the TCGCC Hearing Room.

AGENDA

I. PRELIMINARY
- a. Call to Order
- b. Roll Call
- c. Adoption of Agenda
- d. Adoption of Minutes
  1) July 17, 2014
  2) July 31, 2014
  3) August 15, 2014
  4) April 26, 2017

II. PUBLIC COMMENTS

III. REPORTS
- a. Chair's Report
- b. Executive Director's Report

IV. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

V. NEW BUSINESS

VI. EXECUTIVE SESSION

VII. MISCELLANEOUS/ ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

[1]Public comments are limited to 30 minutes and each remark is limited to 3 minutes each. Everyone is welcomed to submit written comments.
[2]Pursuant to 1 CMC § 9912, the Commission may vote to meet in executive session at any time.

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Office of the Secretary of Public Works
2nd Floor Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan, MP 96950

INVITATION FOR BIDS
DPW-17-IFB-019

REPAIR & RENOVATION OF THE MARPI SUBSTANCE ABUSE & REHABILITATION FACILITY-PHASE 1, SAIPAN

Governor Ralph Dlg. Torres and Lt. Governor Victor B. Hocog, through the Department of Public Works (DPW) are soliciting sealed bids for Repair & Renovation of the Marpi Substance Abuse & Rehabilitation Facility-Phase 1, Saipan Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI).

The project package will be available on or after May 22, 2017 at Technical Services Division, Department of Public Works, located on Second Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, San Jose, Saipan. A non-refundable payment of **One Hundred Dollars ($100.00)** is required for each set. Payment must be made to the CNMI Teasurer and a receipt of payment must be presented when obtaining the Scope of Work at the DPW Technical Services Division.

All interested bidders are also required to include Insurer Clearance Certification (ICC) in their bid packages in order to bid on this project. The ICC can be obtained at the Department of Commerce/Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC) on Capitol Hill.

Bidding procedures shall be in full compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations currently in effect."

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITUES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

There will be a **Pre-bid Conference** for this project on **June 7, 2017, 9:00 a.m, local time** at Project Site, Saipan. The Prospective bidders are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the site. All questions regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than 4:30 p.m. local time on **June 20, 2017** to **Mr. Anthony A. Camacho, Director of Technical Services Division**, 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan or fax to (670) 234-3547. Response to questions shall be shared with prospective bidders.

Prospective bidders should examine and review the invitation for bids with care. If it should appear to a prospective bidder that the performance of the work under the contract or any of the matters relative thereto is not sufficiently described or explained in the invitation for bids, or that any discrepancy exists between different parts of the invitation for bids, or that full intent of the invitation for bids is not clear, then the prospective bidder shall submit a written request for clarification no later than ten (10) working days before the scheduled bid opening at 4:30 pm to **Mr. Anthony A. Camacho, Director of Technical Services Division**, 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan or fax to (670) 234-3547.

The prospective bidder shall examine carefully the site of the proposed work and the invitation for bids before submitting a bid.
The Contracting Officer (CO) may, upon recommendation of the Contracting Officer's Technical Representative (COTR), issue an addendum notifying all prospective bidders known to have received an invitation for bids, or if issued after the deadline for submission of the notice of intention to bid, to those persons who submitted such notice, of any changes to the invitation for bids. The Department of Public Works will make every reasonable attempt to notify all persons who obtained the invitation for bids from the Technical Services Division by telephone to pick up the addendum or if the CO chooses, the addendum may be mailed or delivered personally or by facsimile machine. If the bid proposal requires the acknowledgment of addenda, the prospective bidder shall indicate the date of each addendum in the space provided. **It shall be the prospective bidder's responsibility to confirm the existence of any addendum by telephoning the COTR at (670) 234-9828/9838 no later than ten (10) Calendar days before the scheduled bid opening.**

Sealed bids must be marked **"DPW-17-IFB-019"**. For bidders within the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be submitted to the Office of the Director of Procurement and Supply, located at the former Emergency Management Office, Ascencion Drive, Building No. 1301, Capitol Hill, Saipan, no later than 10:00 a.m. local time June 23, 2017. Bidders located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional Seven (7) working days for receipt of their bids by submitting a Notice of Intent to bid. Notices of Intent to bid must be received by the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than **10:00 a.m. local time, June 23, 2017**, and must be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-mail to **procurement@pticom.com**. For bidders located outside the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than **June 23, 2017** and the BID documents must be received at the Office of the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than **July 5, 2017**. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a bid.

Bids will be publicly opened and read at the Office of the Director of Procurement and Supply, located at the former Emergency Management Office, Ascencion Drive, Building No. 1301, Capitol Hill, Saipan, at **10:00 a.m. local time, July 7, 2017**. However, if no notices of intent to bid were received from bidders outside the CNMI, bids will be opened at **10:30 a.m. local time, on June 23, 2017.**

For bids greater than Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars **($25,000.00)** a bid security of fifteen (15%) of the bid amount must accompany the bid. **Bid security shall be on a bid bond, in cash, by certified check, cashiers check or other form acceptable to the government. A surety company shall hold the certificate of authority from the U.S. Secretary of the Treasury as an acceptable surety or other surety acceptable to the Attorney General. Surety requiring approval of the Attorney General must be pre-approved prior to bid submission.** Checks must be made payable to the CNMI Treasurer, with the name of the bidder and a notation on the face of the check: "Credit Account No. 44660". If a bid bond is submitted it must be accompanied by an Insurer Clearance Certification (ICC).

The bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be subject to a responsibility determination in conformance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations **§70-30.3-245**. The responsible bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be awarded a contract with the CNMI Government and will be required to deliver Performance and Payment bonds, each equal to 100% of the contract price for contracts greater than $25,000.00. Prior to the execution of the contract, the selected contractor shall submit:

a) A current license from the bonding company showing that it has authority to issue bond in the CNMI, and
b) A certification from the bonding company that the unencumbered value of its assets (exclusive of all outstanding commitments on other bond obligations) exceed the penal amount of each bond.

A contractor submitting an unacceptable payment or performance bond may be permitted a reasonable time, as determined by the P&S Director, to substitute an acceptable bond prior to executing a contract.

Acceptable assets are only:

1) Cash
2) US Gov't Securities
3) Stocks and Bonds traded on US Security Exchange
4) Real Property owned in fee simple in US; and
5) Irrevocable Letters of Credit

Performance time for completion of this project is One Hundred Twenty (120) calendar days upon issuance of Notice to Proceed. Liquidated damages for delays beyond the established completion date will be assessed at the rate of One Hundred (US$100.00) for each and every day the work is delayed beyond the established completion date.

All bid documents received shall become the sole property of the CNMI Government. The Government reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive any imperfection in a bid proposal that does not affect the elements of price, quantity, and delivery of the bid, in the best interest of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

ANTHONY A. CAMACHO
Acting Secretary of Public Works

HERMAN S. SABLAN
Director of Procurement & Supply

AGAPE Christian School

10TH COMMENCEMENT AND GRADUATION CEREMONY

School Year 2016-2017

CONTINUE THE SCHOOL'S VISION AND MISSION TO

Educate, Inspire & Change Lives

Congratulations
CLASS OF 2017

K5 GRADUATES

Chen, Xu Andy

Fu, Hedy

Huang, Hao Zheng (Daniel)

Shi, Scott Jia Rong

Wu, Bowei

Yang, Xiaojie

JUNIOR HIGH GRADUATES

Guintu, Frederic Dean Michael
Valedictorian

Xu, Tychicus Jingmu
Salutatorian

Chen, Haolong (John)

Chen, Jinkai

Feng, Tianen

Huang, Lujia (Luke)

Li, Yishen (Leo)

Liang, Simeng (Judy)

Tang, Wendy

Wang, Yilin (Elin)

Wang, Zhiying (Tesiro)

Xing, Xuan (Annie)

Xu, Ben Guobing

Xu, Jiamei Elizabeth

Yang, Lechen (Nicole)

Yu, Min (Amelia)

Zhang, Tianbo (Evon)

SENIORS

Song, Chao (Claire)
Valedictorian
Next Destination
Major in Mathematics
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Feng, Enhao (Andrea)
Salutatorian
Next Destination
Major in Nursing
Pensacola Christian College, Florida

Ayeras, Hendrich Manzano
Next Destination
Major in Nursing
Northern Marianas College, Saipan

Chen, Bailin (Bai)
Next Destination
Major in Health and Physical Education
Northern Marianas College, Saipan

Chen, Meijing (Jessie)
Next Destination
Major in Early Childhood Education
Pensacola Christian College, Florida

Hu, Enjie (Henry)
Next Destination
Major in Business
Pensacola Christian College, Florida

Hu, Enze (Samuel)
Next Destination
Major in Elementary Education
Pensacola Christian College, Florida

Liu, Enhui (Evangeline)
Next Destination
Major in Secondary Education – History
Pensacola Christian College, Florida

Tang, Huifen (Candy)
Next Destination
Major in Nursing
Pensacola Christian College, Florida

Tu, Guanghua (Laurence)
Next Destination
Major in Marketing
Pensacola Christian College, Florida

Wang, Enfeng (Caleb)
Next Destination
Major in Pre-Law
Pensacola Christian College, Florida

Wang, Qingyuan (Gerald)
Next Destination
Major in Business Administration
Green River Community College, Washington

Wang, Shengen (Jason)
Next Destination
Major in Mechanical Engineering
Pensacola Christian College, Florida

Wei, Cheng (Richard)
Next Destination
Pensacola Christian College, Florida

Wu, Su (Sarah)
Next Destination
Major in Nursing
Pensacola Christian College, Florida

Xu, Xia (Rebecca)
Next Destination
Major in Secondary Education - Math
Pensacola Christian College, Florida

Yang, Xinyan (Daisy)
Next Destination
Major in Secondary Education
Pensacola Christian College, Florida

Yu, Duojia (Kitty)
Next Destination
Major in Computer Science
Pensacola Christian College, Florida

Zhao, Chenxi (Alan)
Next Destination
Major in Marketing
Binghamton University SUNY, New York

PMB 466, Box 10001, Saipan, MP 96950-8901 • Telephone: (670)2358540/9898488/9898570 • email: acssaipan@gmail.com • website: www.acssaipan.com

Woman in illegal recruitment case pleads guilty

A corporation president pleaded guilty on Friday to two counts of mail fraud.

Arlene D. Hart, also known as Arlene H. Silva, was accused in federal court of recruiting Filipino workers for a fee and promising them housekeeping jobs on Saipan using fraudulent contracts.

Hart will be sentenced on Oct. 6, 2017. U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona allowed her to remain free until then.

Hart's lawyer, David Banes, said his client is willing to pay restitution to the victims and has agreed to a possible forfeiture.

Assistant U.S. attorney James Benedetto said they are still looking into Hart's assets.

Benedetto told the court that two victims have been informed regarding the change of plea hearing and that they have chosen not to participate in the hearing. Benedetto said the third victim has yet to be notified.

The indictment charged Hart, president of Curtwill Corp., which was doing business as Curtwill Enterprises, with two counts of mail fraud and three counts of fraud in foreign labor contracting.

According to the indictment filed last March, Hart hired alien workers from the Philippines, promising that the company would provide them work in the CNMI for 40 hours per week at a rate of $6.05 per hour, with "holiday pay and bonuses," employer-arranged housing, medical and dental care, and transportation to and from the worksite.

Recruiters in the Philippines identified and recruited aliens to work for Curtwill and facilitated Hart's contact with the alien workers.

Hart and the recruiters then told the alien workers they had to pay up to P65,000 in Philippine peso (about $1,380), in addition to a $750 processing fee, for the filing of I-129CW petitions on their behalf.

Under the CW-1 program, or CNMI-Only Transitional Worker Program, an employer who needs a worker and who wishes to fill a position with an alien worker must file an I-129CW petition. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

Fishing derby on May 7-28

It's time you create a memory with your children and take them fishing at the Marianas Trench Fishing and Seafood Festival Family Fun Fishing Derby slated for May 27-28, 2017.

The Marianas Trench Fishing and Seafood Festival is the brainchild of the late Department of Lands and Natural resources secretary Richard B. Seman, who saw the need to get the CNMI community excited to train up our young people to utilize and preserve our ocean resources.

In this second Marianas Trench Fishing and Seafood Festival, we have added new and exciting undertakings. Our most exciting is the Family Fun Fishing Derby. A team of four can register to fish in five categories: pelagic (deep ocean trolling); deep bottom (over 200 meters); spear fishing; shallow bottom shore casting; and *talaya* (casting net). It is $20 registration per team and each team must have at least one member under 15 years old. Teams can fish in multiple categories. Tournament is jungle rules…the biggest fish wins except *talaya* which is total weight. The Fish & Wildlife Division will conduct the weigh-in and will be the final judge as to which fish are eligible. Fishing derby is 24 hours of fishing from 6pm, Friday, May 26, until 6pm Saturday. Over $5,000 in prize money will be distributed at the prize giving on Sunday.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The Marianas Trench Fishing and Seafood Festival Family Fun Fishing Derby slated for May 27-28, 2017, will feature several booths.

The festival will purchase all fish caught for use by the chefs on Sunday so we will enjoy the freshest fish available.

The festival is also adding in four trips on the Saipan Sea Venture fishing charter boat which will take out 20 juniors (ages 8-16) per trip for three hours of bottom fishing along the reef. All poles, bait and equipment will be provided. We have two trips on Saturday and two trips on Sunday. Just sign up at KKMP or email us at kkmp670@gmail.com for registration form.

On Sunday, the festival is from 10am until 3pm and the highlight will be the *man'nge* chef contest. Amateur chefs will be going head to head against professional chefs in preparing fish dishes in three categories: poki; *kelaguen*; and open category in which anyone can submit a special fish dish. The festival will be providing fish for the chefs to prepare. The preparation is 80 percent of the value of the fish dish. The defending champions from last year are Patrick Cepeda and the Hyatt Regency Saipan.

Besides fishing, there will be live music and family entertainment at Garapan Fishing Base both days and program and vendor booths for the kids to get their face painted, games, participate in arts and crafts, jumping house and much more. We will hold a raffle with amazing prizes to provide more winnings for the participants.

This fun family event is free to attend beginning at 10am on Saturday and ending Sunday from 10am to prize giving at 3pm.

The festival is being coordinated by KKMP radio and KKMP Foundation and will be held at the Garapan Fishing Base on Saturday, May 27, from 10am to 6pm, and Sunday, May 28, from 10am to 3pm.

For more information on the contest, entry forms, displays or sponsorship visit www.marianasfishingfestival.com or email marianasfishfest@gmail.com or call KKMP at 233-1440 / 287-5567. ***(PR)***

Student attorneys recognized at junior high mock trial

The Northern Marianas Humanities Council hosted the 13th CNMI Junior High Mock Trial last month. Ten schools with over 80 student attorneys presented their side in the fictitious cyberstalking case, *Commonwealth v. Kelsey Reed.*

Participating schools included Hopwood Middle School, Chacha Oceanview Middle School, Dandan Middle School, Eskuelan San Francisco de Borja, Francisco M. Sablan Middle School, Grace Christian Academy, Mount Carmel School, Saipan Community School, and Tinian Junior Senior High School.

Chief Justice Alexandro Castro and Associate Justice John Manglona, along with Superior Court associate judges Teresa Kim-Tenorio and Joseph Camacho, and law clerk Benjamin Byers, presided over the rounds.

The junior high mock trial is a signature program of the council and, although it is non-competitive, students representing each side of the case are recognized for their exemplary performance in each round.

For the first round in Castro's courtroom, Hopwood's Jigger Parayaon received special recognition for his role as prosecutor and Vivian Lui for her role as prosecution witness. For the opposing side, ESFDB's Jeremy John Atalig II received special recognition as defense attorney and Michael John Cantil as witness for the defense.

In Manglona's courtroom, SCS' Mateo Guerrero received special recognition for his role as prosecutor and Cloie Seo as prosecution witness. For the opposing side, GCA's Sebastian Camacho received special recognition for his role as defense attorney and Heather Pangilinan and Miriella Dilse as witnesses for the defense.

In Kim-Tenorio's courtroom, Dandan school's Juliet Inocencio received special recognition for her role as prosecutor and Allan Arcega for his role as prosecution witness. For the opposing side, MCS' William Ano received special recognition for his role as defense attorney and Brissa Hunter as witness for the defense.

In Camacho's courtroom, GCA's Claire Marzan, Jonathan Lee, and Christy Lee were given special recognition for their roles as prosecutors; and Steven Andriatico, Joyce Francisco, and Matthew Ernest as witnesses for the prosecution. Representing the defense, Francisco M. Sablan Middle School's Jerine Blazo, Elaine Fernandez and Aldene Alvarez were given special recognition for their roles as attorneys; and Elisha Posadas, Devahn Dogelio, and Nobert Pangelinan Jr. as witnesses.

In Byers' courtroom, Chacha Oceanview's Angelica Mario received special recognition for her role as prosecutor and Joedy Pinaula as prosecution witness. For the opposing side, SCS' Moon Zeng was given special recognition as defense attorney and One An as defense witness.

For the second round in Kim-Tenorio's courtroom, Tinian school's Anisha Viches received special recognition for her role as prosecutor and Clarence Rodriguez as prosecution witness. Representing the defense, GCA's Maria Bonto received special recognition for her role as attorney and Heather Pangilinan as witness.

For the second round in Camacho's courtroom, Chacha Oceanview's Jady Blas, Richard Lacson, and Angelica Mario received special recognition for their roles as prosecutors; and Jude Litulumar, Joedy Pinaula, and Armani Adkins as prosecution witnesses. For the opposing side, Hopwood's Alex Amaro, Gabriel Arkoh, and Ryan Kang were given special recognition for their roles as defense attorneys; and Daphne Cruzat, Christine Becaril, and Jerwan Joyner as defense witnesses.

The council extends its great appreciation to the CNMI Judiciary and House of Justice team, teacher coaches, attorney coaches and volunteers who helped to make this year's event a success. ***(PR)***

500 Sails sets volunteers meeting

500 Sails invites prospective volunteers to learn about opportunities to be part of the movement to restore widespread participation in traditional Chamorro and Carolinian canoe construction and sailing in our islands.

The meeting will be held at the Guma Sakman (canoe house) on Thursday, May 25, at 5:30pm. The Guam Sakman is on the beach, directly across from Marianas High School in Susupe.

Volunteer opportunities include teaching or assisting sailing, swimming, canoe construction, cultural instruction including language and history, as well as event planning and facilities enhancement and maintenance.

Volunteers will become members of the growing community of practitioners of traditional maritime activities in the CNMI that will improve our lives and our islands in many ways—from improved mental and physical health through healthy activities, to transportation to nearby islands, access to our near and off-shore fisheries, enhancing our islands as a tourist destination and creating new employment and entrepreneurial opportunities. Volunteers also will be among the first to build and own their own canoes.

The format of the meeting is informal, with a short overview of 500 Sails and the volunteer program, and staffed tables where participants can get details about various volunteer opportunities and sign up to be volunteers.

For more information contact Tatiana Ilmova, volunteer coordinator for 500 Sails, at tilmova@500Sails.org.

Information about 500 Sails is available online at http://www.500sails.org and on Facebook at https://www.facebook.com/500SailsDolphinClubSaipan. ***(PR)***

Free entrepreneurship workshop

In line with its mission and Strategic Plan objectives, the CNMI Women's Association and the Office of the Special Assistant to the Governor for Women's Affairs are hosting a "Women as Entrepreneurs" Workshop this Thursday, May 25, from 7:30am to 4:30pm at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center in Susupe.

There is no cost to register. All aspiring entrepreneurs and business owners are invited to attend

Jeanette Tambakau, of the Sabah Women Entrepreneurs & Professionals Association, will give the keynote address.

The mission of SWEPA is to provide a platform for women entrepreneurs and professionals to network and be trained. Its vision is to bring women entrepreneurs and professionals to the forefront in the economic development of the state and nation.

Seating is limited and those interested are encouraged to register no later than Wednesday, May 24, by submitting the registration form to the Garapan Community Development Center, right beside the Carolinian Utt, or by emailing cwa.fogumoro@gmail.com or cwa.pmareham@gmail.com. The registration form could also be picked up at the Center or downloaded from the CNMI Women's Association Facebook page at https://www.facebook.com/cnmiwomen.

For more information, call 233-9411 or 233-8978 or email cwa.fogumoro@gmail.com or cwa.pmareham@gmail.com.

The CNMI Women's Association is funded by the Community Services Block Grant funds from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services under the Department of Community and Cultural Affairs-Division of Youth Services. ***(PR)***

Nation

Deadly Times Square attack highlights NYC pedestrian safety

NEW YORK (AP)—Fears of a terrorist attack prompted officials to ring many of the pedestrian plazas of Times Square with squat steel posts capable of stopping a speeding vehicle.

But those barriers only cover so much ground. There were none of them Thursday at the corner where a man steered his car onto a busy sidewalk and began barreling through crowds of pedestrians, running down 23 people and killing one before one of the metal posts finally stopped him.

The bollard that stopped the car driven by Richard Rojas likely saved lives by preventing it from entering an even more densely packed pedestrian plaza, and some New Yorkers are wondering whether the barriers should be deployed on many more sidewalks, much as they are now at sports stadiums and airports nationwide.

"We can and should do more to keep our residents and visitors safe on our streets and street design is the first place to start," said Ydanis Rodriguez, a city councilman from Manhattan who chairs the transportation committee. He called for the installation of more bollards at the ends of city sidewalks in busy areas.

Last year, city officials installed 200 custom-made bollards in the Times Square area, enlisting the California-based Calpipe Security Bollards to manufacture and help design special 8 ½-inch diameter (22 centimeter) hunks of metal that are embedded in the ground and spaced about 4 feet (1 meter) apart, said Rob Reiter, the company's security consultant.

The bollards come equipped with special locks that firefighters can undo so they may be removed in an emergency. In Times Square, they are embedded no more than 18 inches (46 centimeters) into the ground, a necessity given the subway station just beneath the city's surface.

Still, that was enough of an anchor to abruptly stop Rojas's Honda Accord, which was tossed into the air and wound up on its side, smoking, after running into a line of the barriers.

ACROSS THE NATION

Callers threaten Texas lawmaker who seeks Trump impeachment

HOUSTON (AP)—A black Texas congressman said Saturday that he's been threatened with lynching by callers infuriated over him seeking impeachment of President Donald Trump. U.S. Rep. Al Green held a town hall meeting and played recordings of several threatening voicemails left at his offices in Houston and Washington, the Houston Chronicle reports . The seven-term Democrat told the crowd of about 100 people that he won't be deterred. "We are not going to be intimidated," Green said Saturday. "We are not going to allow this to cause us to deviate from what we believe to be the right thing to do and that is to proceed with the impeachment of President Trump."

Confederate statue removals part of New Orleans mayor legacy

NEW ORLEANS (AP)—Mitch Landrieu enters his final year as mayor of New Orleans drawing less attention to what's been built than to what's been taken down: Century-old landmarks, three honoring Confederate leaders and one heralding white supremacy, have disappeared from the city landscape at his behest. Emotional debates, state and federal court battles and tense confrontations at monument sites marked the process. The drama played out over the nearly two years since he proposed removing the four monuments. The City Council approved the action in December 2015. Landrieu won elections in 2010 and 2014 with strong biracial majorities. But he's limited to two consecutive terms and his political future is cloudy. He's held statewide office, having been elected lieutenant governor in 2003 and 2007. But, as a Democrat who just enraged die-hard lovers of Confederate iconography, his odds of returning to the statewide scene appear to have dimmed in a reliably Republican state.

Investigators try to figure out why man disruptive on flight

HONOLULU (AP)—Soon after they boarded a flight to Honolulu, Mark and Donna Basden found a laptop computer in a seat pocket in front of them. The couple assumed someone on a previous flight left it there. But a flight attendant said it probably belonged to a man who was in the bathroom. A man Donna Basden described as a "disheveled looking fellow" emerged and Mark Basden gave him the laptop. The man scowled, took the laptop and opened it and closed it and then tried to sit in another first class seat, Mark Basden said. Authorities say that moments later, the man—identified as Anil Uskanli, 25, of Turkey—had created so many problems on American Airlines Flight 31 on Friday from Los Angeles to Honolulu that he had to be immobilized with duct tape in a seat until the plane landed in Honolulu. Uskanli was taken into custody after the plane, escorted by two fighter jets, landed.

Twitter leader laments social media role in Trump's election

SAN FRANCISCO (AP)—A co-founder of Twitter says he's sorry if the popular social media platform helped put Donald Trump in the White House, as the president has suggested. In an interview with The New York Times, Evan Williams says Twitter's role in Trump's populist rise is "a very bad thing." The president has credited Twitter with his election to the highest office in the land. When confronted with that notion, Williams said: "If it's true that he wouldn't be president if it weren't for Twitter, then yeah, I'm sorry." The 45-year-old Silicon Valley entrepreneur also said the internet is obviously broken because it rewards extremes. Williams also says he was wrong thinking that the world would be a better place if there was a platform for everyone to freely speak and exchange ideas.

COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION
P.O. BOX 500514, Saipan, MP 96950-0514
Email: nmhc@nmhc.gov.mp • Website: http://www.nmhc.gov.mp

INVITATION FOR BID
NMHC IFB 2017-001

(This ad is paid for by NMHC with HUD funds.)

BID SUBMISSION DATE: TUESDAY, JUNE 27, 2017 • TIME: 10:00 AM

"DIVISION OF YOUTH SERVICES (DYS) CENTER REPAIRS"

Bid packets will be available on Monday, May 22, 2017, at the NMHC Central Office in Garapan, Saipan, during regular working hours (7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.) Monday thru Friday except CNMI holidays. A non-refundable payment of Fifty Dollars ($50.00) is required for each set. Payment shall be by cash, credit card, money order or cashier's check (payable to the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation).

A mandatory pre-bid conference will be held at 1:30 p.m. on Thursday, June 8, 2017, at the NMHC Conference Room, and all interested bidders will be given the opportunity to walk through the proposed site, familiarize themselves with the required work and ask questions regarding the project. Attendance at this conference and site visit are considered essential to the bidders' understanding of the project elements and a company that does not have a representative in attendance at the pre-bid conference will be considered as a non-responsive bidder. All questions regarding this project must be submitted in writing to Mr. Jesse S. Palacios, Corporate Director of the NMHC, P. O. Box 500514, Saipan, MP 96950, or faxed to (670) 234-9021 no later than 10:30 a.m. local time, Thursday, June 22, 2017.

This project is funded by a grant from the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), under its Community Development Block Grant (CDBG).

The provisions of the CNMI Procurement regulations, NMIAC 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 Prohibiting Gratuities, Kickbacks and Contingent Fees shall apply.

For more information, contact Ms. Jocelyn C. Seman, Procurement Officer, or Mr. Jacob J. Muna, Planner/Environmental Officer at (670) 234-6866/7689 during regular business hours, 7:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday, except CNMI holidays.

/s/ Marcie M. Tomokane
Chairwoman of the Board

/s/ Herman S. Sablan
Director, Procurement & Supply

COMMONWEALTH CASINO COMMISSION
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
P.O. Box 500237, Saipan, MP 96950
Tel: 1 (670) 233-1857 • Fax: 1 (670) 233-1856
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PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to the Open Government Act, Governor Ralph DLG. Torres, and Lt. Governor Victor B. Hocog, through the Commonwealth Casino Commission ("Commission"), hereby give notice that the Commission has scheduled a Special Meeting on Tuesday, May 23, 2017 at 10:00 a.m. at the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library (Technology Room) in Susupe, Saipan.

The following Agenda will be discussed:

I. PRELIMINARIES:
A. Call to Order
B. Roll Call
C. Adoption of Agenda

II. REPORTS:
A. Report by the Chairman
B. Report by the Executive Director

III. PUBLIC COMMENTS

IV. OLD BUSINESS

V. NEW BUSINESS:

A. **Imperial Pacific International (CNMI), LLC's ("IPI") May 16, 2017 Request to Allow Casino Gaming at the Imperial Pacific Resort & Hotel ("IPR"), in Garapan, Saipan.**

VI. MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS:

VII. EXECUTIVE SESSION:
A. Report by the Legal Counsel
B. Report by the Development Planning Advisory Committee ("DPAC")
C. IPI Financial Matters

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 13(a)(7) and Section 13(c), the Commission may vote to meet in Executive Session. In addition, the Commission may extend its official meeting for another day or more if necessary.

Juan M. Sablan
Chairman

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PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to the Open Government Act, Governor Ralph DLG. Torres, and Lt. Governor Victor B. Hocog, through the Commonwealth Casino Commission ("Commission"), hereby give notice that the Commission has scheduled a meeting on Thursday, May 25, 2017 at 10:00 a.m. at the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library (Technology Room) in Susupe, Saipan.

The following Agenda will be discussed:

I. PRELIMINARIES:
A. Call to Order
B. Roll Call
C. Adoption of Agenda
D. Adoption of Minutes: April 19, 2017 and April 20, 2017

II. REPORTS:
A. Report by the Chairman
B. Report by the Executive Director

III. PUBLIC COMMENTS

IV. OLD BUSINESS

V. MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS:
A. Updates from Imperial Pacific International (CNMI), LLC ("IPI"):
1. Construction Progress – Imperial Pacific Resort & Hotel
2. Update on IPI Organizational Chart
3. Personnel Training and Recruitment Efforts
4. Responsible Gaming Program
5. Other Miscellaneous Matters

VI. NEW BUSINESS:
A. Ratification of CCC's Action on IPI's Request to Start Gaming Operations at IPR
B. Notification of Provisional Casino Service Provider License: Issued by CCC on 05/09/17.
Actimize Ltd. -- Software and Technology Platform for Preventing At-Risk Financial Transactions
C. Notification of Provisional Casino Vendor License (Non-Gaming)-- Issued by CCC to:
1. Herman Cabrera, Architectural & Engineering on 05/03/17
2. Marianas Acquisition Corporation (dba: IP&E Saipan) on 05/18/17
3. Fujitec Pacific, Inc. on 05/18/17
D. CCC's Review of Marianas Enterprises Limited (MEL): MEL's Request to Withdraw their CCC Regular Non-Gaming Vendor Application

VII. EXECUTIVE SESSION:
A. Report by the Legal Counsel
B. Development Planning Advisory Committee ("DPAC") - Update
C. IPI Financial Matters

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 13(a)(7) and Section 13(c), the Commission may vote to meet in Executive Session. In addition, the Commission may extend its official meeting for another day or more if necessary.

/s/ Juan M. Sablan
Chairman

Asia

Pacific ministers commit to move ahead with agreement without US

HANOI, Vietnam (AP)—The Pacific Rim trade ministers meeting in Vietnam committed Sunday to move ahead with the Trans Pacific Partnership trade pact after the United States pulled out.

New Zealand Trade Minister Todd McClay said the remaining 11 TPP countries are open to others joining provided they accept the trade agreement's high standards on labor and environmental protection. He said the door remains open to the U.S., even after President Donald Trump withdrew from the pact in January, saying he prefers bilateral free trade deals.

"It's clear that each country is having to consider both economic values and strategic importance of this agreement, but in the end there are a lot of unity among all of the countries and a great desire to work together to come up with an agreement among 11 that not only delivers for all of our economies and the people of our countries, it's also open to others countries in the world to join if they can meet the high standards in the TPP agreement," McClay told reporters.

Since the U.S withdrawal, Japan and New Zealand have been spearheading efforts to revive the deal. In its current form, the TPP requires U.S. participation before it can go into effect. That means the remaining countries would need to change the rules for any deal to go ahead, and it would be significantly smaller without the involvement of the world's largest economy.

The 11 countries represent roughly 13.5 percent of the global economy, according to the World Bank.

In a statement, the trade ministers said they agreed to launch a process to assess options to bring the agreement into force "expeditiously, including how to facilitate membership for the original signatories."

The ministers have tasked their trade officials to present the assessment to their leaders when they meet for an annual the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation summit in Vietnam in November, which will also include Trump, Russian President Vladimir Putin and Chinese President Xi Jinping.

They also underlined their vision for the TPP to expand to include other economies, saying these efforts would address concerns about protectionism, contribute to maintaining open markets, strengthening the rules-based international trading system, increasing world trade and raising living standards.

Vietnam and Malaysia had been expected to be beneficiaries from the original TPP with greater access to U.S. markets and investments. The TPP was championed by former President Barack Obama and was seen as a counterbalance to China's growing influence in the region.

ASIAN BRIEFS

Philippines says it will reject all aid with conditions

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—The Philippines' top diplomat says the government's new policy of rejecting aid with conditions applies to all donor countries, not just the European Union. Foreign Secretary Alan Peter Cayetano made the statement Friday, a day after officials confirmed that Manila had declined about 250 million euros (nearly $280 million) in EU grants because the aid "would involve review of our adherence to the rule of law." President Rodrigo Duterte earlier challenged the EU to stop its assistance after the bloc warned that the Philippines risked losing tariff-free exports to Europe because of the thousands of people killed in Duterte's war on illegal drugs, and government moves to revive the death penalty. Asked by journalists what other donors are covered by the aid boycott, Cayetano replied, "All countries."

Indian woman cuts off genitals of her alleged rapist

NEW DELHI (AP)—A 24-year-old woman in southern India cut off the genitals of a Hindu holy man who tried to rape her and who she alleged has been sexually assaulting her for the past eight years, police said Saturday. G. Sparjan Kumar, a police officer in Thiruvananthapuram, the Kerala state capital, said the woman fled her home after the incident Friday night and called police. The alleged attacker, 54-year-old Gangeshananda Theerthapada, who claims to be a spiritual healer, was reported to be in stable condition after reconstructive surgery. Pinarayi Vijayan, the state's chief minister, told reporters on Saturday that it was brave of the woman to take such action. "It's a courageous and strong act by the woman," he said. The New Delhi Television news channel said the woman's family knew Theerthapada, who used to visit their home to cure her bed-ridden father. She told police that he would rape her whenever he got an opportunity. When he again visited her home on Friday night and tried to force himself on her, she got hold of a knife and attacked him, Kumar said. Violent crimes against women have been on the rise in India despite tough laws enacted by the government.

5 dead as Indonesian ferry catches fire in Java Sea

JAKARTA, Indonesia (AP)—A search for survivors of a ferry that caught fire in the Java Sea, killing five people, has been suspended for the night, an Indonesian search and rescue official said Saturday. The national search and rescue agency's operations director, Ivan Ahmad Riski, said 193 people have been rescued. The number of missing was unclear. The agency's initial figure for the number of people aboard, apparently based on the vessel's manifest, was 178. It is not uncommon for ferries, a regular form of transport in the Indonesian archipelago, to be overcrowded or to carry more passengers than declared. The accident happened on Friday night about 3 kilometers (2 miles) from Masalembo Island. A nearby ship went to the aid of the stricken ferry, which was also carrying many cars and trucks.

Afghan officials: 2 killed after gunmen storm bank

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP)—Afghan officials say at least two civilians have been killed after gunmen stormed into a New Kabul Bank branch in eastern Paktia province. Abdullah Hsrat, spokesman for the provincial governor, says an unknown number of gunmen attacked the bank in Gardez, the provincial capital, on Saturday. Hsrat says two of the attackers have been shot and killed by security forces. No group immediately claimed responsibility for the attack, but Taliban insurgents have increased their attacks against Afghan security forces across the country.

World

Trump meet with Arab leaders ahead of speech

RIYADH, Saudi Arabia (AP)—Even as his administration fights for its travel ban from several Muslim-majority countries, President Donald Trump is using the nation that is home to Islam's holiest site as a backdrop to call for Muslim unity in the fight against terrorism.

AP

U.S. President Donald Trump, right, holds a bilateral meeting with Bahrain's King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa, Sunday, May 21, 2017, in Riyadh.

Trump's Sunday speech, the centerpiece of his two-day visit to Saudi Arabia, will address the leaders of 50 Muslim-majority countries to cast the challenge of extremism as a "battle between good and evil" and urge Arab leaders to "drive out the terrorists from your places of worship," according to a draft of the speech obtained by The Associated Press.

Trump, whose campaign was frequently punctuated by bouts of anti-Islamic rhetoric, is poised to soften some of his language about Islam. Though during the campaign he repeatedly stressed the need to say the words "radical Islamic terrorism"—and criticized his opponent, Hillary Clinton, for not doing so —that phrase is not included in the draft.

The speech comes amid a renewed courtship of the United States' Arab allies as Trump is set to have individual meetings with leaders of several nations, including Egypt and Qatar, before then participating in a roundtable with the Gulf Cooperation Council and joining Saudi King Salman in opening Riyadh's new anti-terrorism center.

The president began Sunday with a meeting with the king of Bahrain. Trump said the two countries "have a wonderful relationship" but that "there has been a little strain" and vowed to improve things further. Trump did not specify what tension he needed to resolve. The two countries have had a long-term military alliance, though the U.S. was critical of Bahrain's response to uprisings during the Arab Spring.

Trump's prepared address also notably refrains from mentioning democracy and human rights—topics Arab leaders often view as U.S. moralizing—in favor of the more limited goals of peace and stability.

"We are not here to lecture—to tell other peoples how to live, what to do or who to be. We are here instead to offer partnership in building a better future for us all," according to the copy of his speech.

Two different sources provided the AP with copies of the draft of his remarks, billed as a marquee speech of the trip. The White House confirmed the draft was authentic, but cautioned the president had not yet signed off on the final product and that changes could be made.

Freed Nigerian schoolgirls meet families after 3 years

ABUJA, Nigeria (AP)—The 82 Nigerian schoolgirls recently released after more than three years in Boko Haram captivity reunited with their families Saturday as anxious parents looked for signs of how deeply the extremists had changed their daughters' lives.

Brightly dressed families rushed through the crowd in the capital, Abuja, and embraced. One small group sank to their knees, with a woman raising her hands as if praising in church. Some danced. Others were in tears.

"I am really happy today, I am Christmas and new year, I am very happy and I thank God," said mother Godiya Joshua, whose daughter Esther was among those freed.

This month's release was the largest liberation of hostages since 276 Chibok schoolgirls were abducted from their boarding school in 2014. Five commanders from the extremist group were exchanged for the girls' freedom, and Nigeria's government has said it would make further exchanges to bring the 113 remaining schoolgirls home.

"Our joy is never complete until we see the complete 113, because one Chibok girl matters to all Chibok people," said a parent of one of the freed schoolgirls, Yahi Bwata.

Many of the girls, most of them Christians, were forced to marry extremists and have had children. Some have been radicalized and have refused to return. It is feared that some have been used in suicide bombings.

The mass abduction in April 2014 brought international attention to Boko Haram's deadly insurgency in northern Nigeria, and it launched a global Bring Back Our Girls campaign that drew the backing of some celebrities, including former U.S. first lady Michelle Obama. Thousands have been kidnapped during the extremists' eight-year insurgency, and more than 20,000 have been killed.

The release of the 82 schoolgirls this month came after an initial group of 21 girls was released in October. Nigeria's government has acknowledged negotiating with Boko Haram for their release, with mediation help from the Swiss government and the International Committee of the Red Cross.

The two groups of freed schoolgirls reunited earlier Saturday, Nigeria's Channels TV reported, showing the young women laughing and embracing.

Since the latest release, many families in the remote Chibok community had been waiting for word on whether their daughters were among them. A government list of names circulated, and parents were asked to confirm the freed girls' identities through photos.

Health & Fitness

INFECTIOUS DISEASES A-Z:

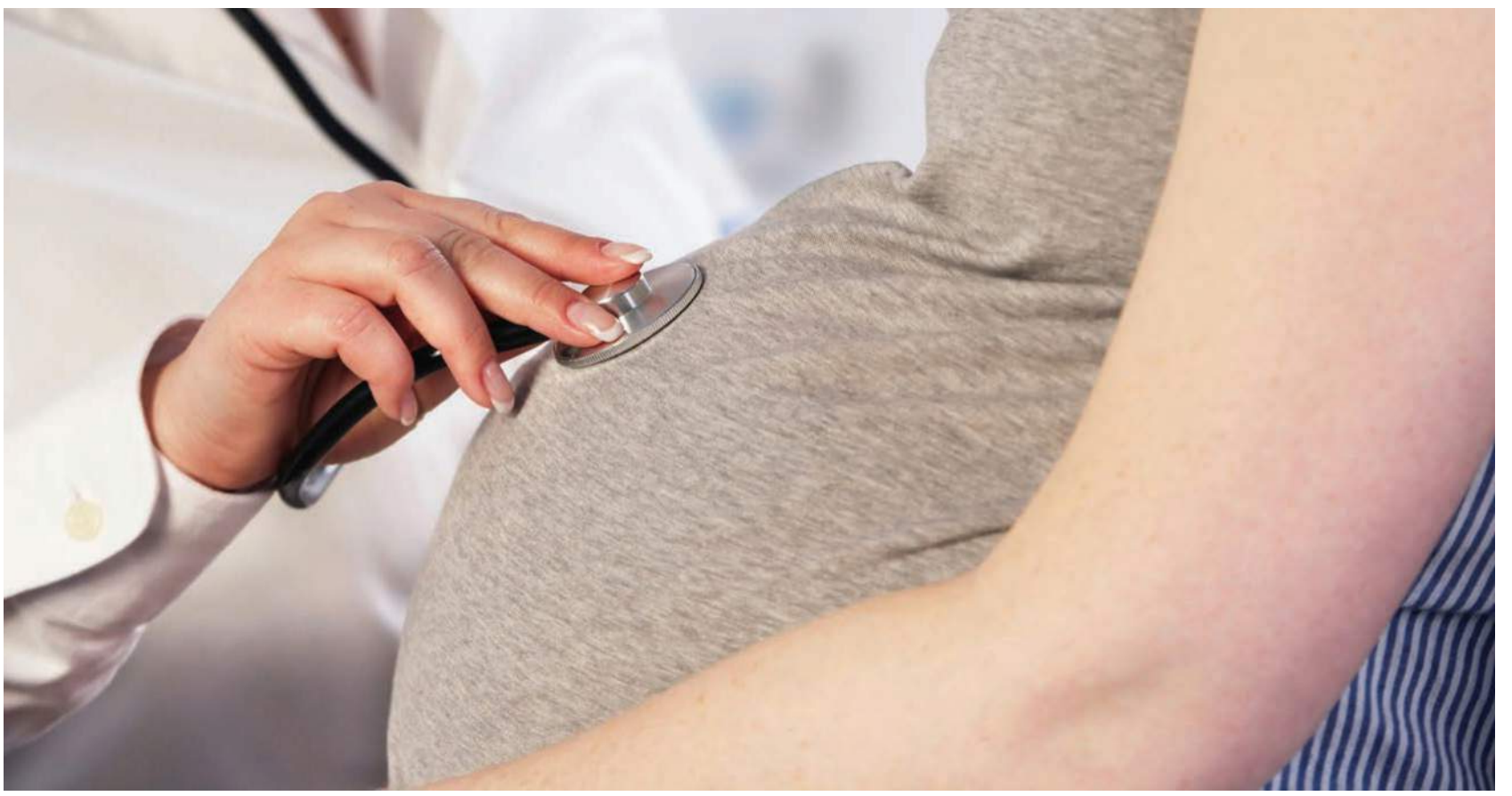
Babies born with Zika-related birth defects

Among pregnant women in the U.S. with confirmed Zika virus, about one in 10 had a fetus or baby with birth defects.

That's according to a new report by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

"Initially, we knew pretty clearly that there was some association between Zika virus infection during pregnancy and some sort of malformation, such as microcephaly in the unborn child—meaning if pregnant women are infected with Zika, there was a risk to the unborn child of having some sort of birth defect," says Mayo Clinic infectious diseases specialist Dr. Pritish Tosh. "And usually that birth defect was microcephaly."

The CDC report found nearly 1,000 pregnant women from 44 states who completed their pregnancies had some evidence of a recent Zika infection, and were at risk of having a fetus or baby with Zika-related birth defects.



According to a new report from the CDC, about one in 10 pregnant women with the confirmed Zika virus had a baby with birth defects. DREAMSTIME

WHAT THE REPORT MEANS

"The CDC report offers an important piece of information in terms of the epidemiology of Zika virus infection and what the implications are for pregnant women." says Tosh. "The epidemiologic data from the CDC really help to quantify that what the risk is. If a pregnant woman is infected with Zika virus, there is about a 10 percent chance that the child will have some sort of birth defect, most commonly microcephaly. Ten percent is a very high number, and it really stresses the importance that pregnant women not travel to Zika virus-endemic areas. And … if people are traveling to areas where Zika virus is endemic … they should wait—at least eight weeks if it's a woman or six months if it's a man—before trying to conceive a child. This 10 percent value seems to be very real and puts a number to what was previously an obscure concept of risk."

Zika typically is spread through the bite of an infected Aedes genus mosquito; however, it also can be spread from mother to child, and through sexual contact.

Toxic chemicals from cigarettes remain toxic in secondhand smoke

Dear Mayo Clinic: Is secondhand cigarette smoke dangerous to my health?

A: The short answer to your question is yes, secondhand smoke is dangerous. Secondhand smoke—also known as environmental tobacco smoke—is a combination of the smoke coming from a burning cigarette and the smoke exhaled by the smoker, which spreads out to the surrounding space.

Secondhand smoke is still dangerous, containing the same toxic chemicals inhaled by smokers. DREAMSTIME

Secondhand smoke contains the same toxic chemicals that are inhaled by smokers, including nicotine, carbon monoxide, benzene, formaldehyde, cyanide and a variety of cancer-causing substances. The effects of the se chemicals are greater when inhaled directly from a cigarette; nonetheless, the effects are still toxic secondhand.

Particles in secondhand smoke can remain in the air for hours, and the residue that clings to a smoker's hair, clothing and other items also may pose health risks, especially for children. This residue is sometimes referred to as thirdhand smoke.

Because secondhand smoke is a dynamic mixture that changes as it travels and mixes with the environment, it's hard to quantify its risk. In general, no amount of secondhand smoke is safe, because of its inherent toxicity.

Evidence indicates that the secondhand smoke exposure that comes from living with a smoker can increase your risk of lung cancer by 20 to 30 percent. Secondhand smoke also increases your risk of coronary heart disease by 25 to 30 percent and can lead to a variety of health risks for children, as well as for pregnant women and their unborn babies.

As with active smoking, the greater the exposure—and the longer the duration of exposure—the greater the risk of harm, especially for diseases such as lung cancer. However, even short-term exposure can worsen symptoms of asthma and coronary heart disease.

Unfortunately, air cleaning devices or filters don't effectively clear the air of secondhand smoke. The only way to eliminate the risks of exposure is to eliminate smoking. In recent years, smoke-free legislation has greatly increased the number of public places that are now smoke-free.

For a smoker, smoking cessation can be a difficult journey but an important one. If you smoke, know that quitting will improve not only your own health, but also the health of your loved ones. If you live with a smoker, your full support is essential to his or her quitting process. ***(Mayo Clinic News Network/TNS)***

Healthy Living

Low carbs

How two popular protein-rich foods – often relied on by people on a low-carbohydrate weight loss diet – stack up:

	Hard-boiled eggs, two large	Tuna, packed in water, 3.5 oz. (35 g)
Calories	310	115 g
Carbohydrate	2.2 g	None
Protein	25 g	26 g
Fat, total	21 g	0.8 g

Source: U.S. Agricultural Research Service, TNS Photo Service

This advertorial is sponsored by Tan Siu Lin Foundation

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HEALTH IS WEALTH

Tan Siu Lin Foundation

Life & Style

Britain's Kate, the Duchess of Cambridge, right, stands with her children Prince George and Princess Charlotte, following the wedding ceremony of her sister Pippa Middleton and James Matthews, at St Mark's Church in Englefield, England Saturday, May 20, 2017. AP

English wedding: Pippa Middleton marries as royals look on

Two likely future British kings were there, along with one of the world's most photographed women, the often-adorable Prince Harry, a multilingual tennis legend and a brash TV reality star.

But all eyes were on Pippa Middleton on Saturday as she walked down the aisle of a 12th-century church wearing a custom hand-embroidered gown with a tiara and long veil to marry hedge fund manager James Matthews.

Reporters, photographers and camera crews invaded the small village of Englefield west of London, home to St. Mark's Church, and nearby Bucklebury, where a lavish reception was being held Saturday night at the estate of the bride's parents, Michael and Carole Middleton.

Middleton, 33, is not royalty. But the star-studded wedding took on some aspects of a royal wedding, with well-wishers gathering outside the church grounds hoping for a glimpse.

She arrived in a vintage Jaguar to enter the church on the arm of her father. Older sister Kate, also known as the Duchess of Cambridge, looked after the page boys and bridesmaids, who were all under five years old and included her own children, Prince George, 3, and Princess Charlotte, 2.

Prince William and Prince Harry, decked out in formal morning suits, seemed relaxed as they strolled into the church and were greeted by the groom's well-known brother, Spencer Matthews, a star on the TV show "Made in Chelsea."

Matthews, 41, smiled broadly and sported elegant formal wear set off by a pale blue vest.

The new couple emerged from the church an hour later. The children dropped flower petals in their path before the couple celebrated their union with a kiss. Then it was off for champagne and, later, a short spin in a different Jaguar.

Ingrid Seward, editor of Majesty Magazine, said the Middletons could take pleasure in the day: Their first daughter, Kate, had married a future king, and their second daughter, Pippa, had married an extremely wealthy, charming and handsome man.

"You can't do better than that," she said.

Matthew and Pippa briefly dated in 2012 but became serious last year. He proposed during a visit to the enchanting Lake District, setting in motion what is being called the society wedding of the year.

The wedding plan was not without risks—including having such young children in the wedding party. But George and Charlotte—and the rest of the page boys and bridesmaids—did extremely well in public, winning hearts along the way in their custom-made outfits. ***(AP)***

IN LOVING MEMORY OF

†Arsenia Dalayoan Hernandez

Lovingly known as **"Senyang"** or **"Sen"**
Born on December 14, 1937 and was called to Eternal rest on
May 11, 2017 in San Diego, CA

In her new life she joins:
Husband: **†Brigido S. Hernandez**
Father: **†Pioquinto Dalayoan**
Mother: **†Balbina R. Dalayoan**
Sisters: **†Eduarda D. Paragas**
†Rebecca D. Lising

Her memory will live forever in the hearts of her:
Children:
Nory D. Hernandez *(Shani Pearl & McKnight, Otto Owen, Krystal Erin, Kayla Kirby, Tyler Matthew)*
Sally H. *& Perry J. Cacdac (Nigel Perry)*
Ramon D. *& Julie A. Hernandez (John Ray & Rheilyns, Jerol & TJ, Jillian Roby & Leo, Michael Jay*
Glenda H. *& Ric S. Mendiola (Ashley, Nicole, Rico Richard & Ryan)*
Cora D. Hernandez *(Cameren Kyle)*

Sister: **Priscilla D. Joven**

She is additional survived by her numerous great grandchildren, brothers and sisters-in-law, nephews, nieces, cousins and friends.
Funeral Services will be held on Monday, May 29, 2017.
Her remains will be escorted from Nuestra Senora Dela Paz to Kristo Rai Church at 7:30am.

Responso service will be at 8:00am followed by Holy Rosary at 8:15am.
Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 10:00 followed by interment service at Sanctuario Paz Memorial Gardens in Kagman, Saipan, where she will be at a peaceful rest.

Please Join Us In Prayers

Children and Families

French AIDS drama earns best reviews yet at Cannes Film fest

CANNES, France (AP)—"120 Beats Per Minute," a French AIDS drama with a full heart and a pounding rhythm, debuted at the Cannes Film Festival on Saturday and quickly joined the shortlist of favorites for the festival's coveted Palme d'Or prize.

Directed by Robin Campillo, the co-screenwriter of the Palme d'Or-winning film "The Class," the movie centers on the activist group ACT UP in Paris in the 1990s during the AIDS crisis.

The film's docu-drama retelling of that painful period, combined with a burgeoning spirit of unity for the gay community, earned it some of the best reviews of the festival thus far. Vanity Fair called the film "a vital new gay classic."

Campillo, himself, was an ACT UP militant activist in the '90s and had long wanted to turn his experience—one of both tragedy and inspiration—into a film. He called it a "crucial" time in his life.

"I lived things myself which appear in the film. I actually had to dress a friend of mine who had died," Campillo told reporters. "When you really experience that kind of thing firsthand, you realize these are very simple moments. You don't break down and cry. You have certain forms of self-defense. It would be too easy if you could just cry and feel better."

The film, filled with personal traumas and political awakenings, is fictional but is based on real events. It tracks the activists through strategy meetings, protests meant to spur action by the government or drug companies, and their evening reveries on the dance floor.

"What I wanted to do was get back to the electricity there was in those days, the energy," said Campillo.

Hugh Jackman's secret? He didn't know wolverines are real

NEW YORK (AP)—After playing Wolverine in nine movies, Hugh Jackman arguably knows more about the superhero than anyone. But that wasn't always the case.

He recalls researching the animal when he first got the role and being somewhat mistaken about the character. For one thing, he had no idea that a wolverine is a real creature.

"I didn't even know there was a wolverine. I literally, embarrassingly did about two weeks of research on wolves. I was rehearsing for three weeks and I was shooting, so I was kind of on my own. I remember going past an IMAX in Toronto, and there was an IMAX documentary about wolves, and so I thought, 'I'll go and see that,'" Jackman said Wednesday.

When they stared shooting 2000's "X-Men," director Bryan Singer noticed something wasn't right with Jackman's performance.

"He said, 'Are you sort of walking funny, what's going on?' And I said, 'I've been doing this thing with wolves,' and he goes, 'You know you're not a wolf, right?'" Jackman recalled.

AP

Hugh Jackman, left, and Dafne Keen pose with their awards for best duo for "Logan" in the press room at the MTV Movie and TV Awards at the Shrine Auditorium on Sunday, May 7, 2017, in Los Angeles.

The actor was gently told he was to portray a wolverine, not a wolf. "I said, 'Well, there's no such thing as a wolverine,'" Jackman said. Singer responded: "'Go to the zoo, dude.' I literally didn't know it existed," Jackman said.

A wolverine is a mammal that resembles a small bear but is actually the largest member of the weasel family. The Wolverine that Jackman plays onscreen is a mutant born with superhuman senses and the power to heal from almost any wound.

Earlier this year, Jackman marked the character's final performance in "Logan," and is now promoting the film's special treatment "Logan Noir," with a black-and-white version of the film in theaters ahead of the DVD release.

While "Logan" takes on a grittier look and feel than the other movies of the franchise, director James Mangold, who also co-wrote the screenplay, wanted the story to be more sentimental.

"From the very beginning when we set out to make the movie, the one thing we knew is that we wanted to make a movie about family," he said. "Not the kind with a girlfriend or a wife, but the kind where it's forever, and it's your child, or it's your father."

"Logan" and "Logan Noir" are currently playing in theaters, and will be available on DVD May 23.

SHOWBIZ TIDBITS

Police warn Harry Potter fans to stay off 'Hogwarts' viaduct

LONDON (AP)—British police are warning Harry Potter fans not to put themselves in danger by walking along an active railway line to a landmark from the fantasy films. British Transport police say there has been an increase in the number of people walking down train tracks to the Glenfinnan Viaduct in the Scottish Highlands. The Hogwarts Express is shown steaming across the viaduct in several Harry Potter films. Sgt. Kevin Lawrence said many tourists take the picturesque Victorian bridge, and some walk back along the line to take photographs. He said Friday that "I would like to remind everyone that we are mere Muggles, and if you trespass on the railway and are struck by a train, the consequences could be extremely serious and probably fatal."

Actor Tom Hanks is on the beat, flagging car for police

NEW YORK (AP)—Actor Tom Hanks is on the beat in New York City, using Twitter to alert police to a car with a slew of tickets on its windshield. Turns out the tickets were paid. The Daily News reports that the New York Police Department responded when the Academy Award winning star of "Philadelphia," ''Forrest Gump" and "Sully" on Saturday tweeted: "Sir? Move. Your. Car! Hanx." He also posted a picture of the burgundy sedan with at least a half dozen tickets bulging from beneath windshield wipers at East 79th Street and Park Avenue. A police official returned the tweet, requesting the car's location. The newspaper says police believe the car's owner likely paid the tickets online. The car's owner eventually moved it.

Amber Heard shows off form-fitting 'Aquaman' costume

Amber Heard has given the world a first glimpse of her look as the underwater alien she plays in the upcoming "Aquaman" film. Heard and "Aquaman" director James Wan shared photos of Heard in character as Aquaman's love interest, Mera, on Thursday. Heard sports red hair and a scaly, form-fitting suit in the role. She posted a picture on Twitter with the note, "Meet Mera." Wan called Heard "exquisite." "Aquaman" stars Jason Momoa as the title character. The cast also includes Nicole Kidman, Willem Dafoe, Dolph Lundgren and Patrick Wilson. Filming is taking place in Australia. It's set for release in December of 2018. ***(AP)***

Rapper Travis Scott pleads not guilty to inciting a riot

BENTONVILLE, Ark. (AP)—A rapper who was charged with inciting a riot after inviting fans onstage during an Arkansas concert has pleaded not guilty. Police say Travis Scott "encouraged people to rush the stage" during a concert Saturday at the Walmart Arkansas Music Pavilion in Rogers, about 200 miles northwest of Little Rock. Investigators say multiple people were injured, including a concert security employee and a police officer. Scott's attorney, Drew Ledbetter, tells the Northwest Arkansas Democrat-Gazette Scott "only intended to put on a good show." Ledbetter says Scott waived his arraignment and pleaded not guilty to the charges, including disorderly conduct and endangering the welfare of a minor. An attorney for the city says she can't comment on the pending case. Scott, whose legal name is Jacques Webster, is scheduled to perform Friday in Michigan.

Woman worries lazy fiance will also be lazy husband

DEAR ABBY: My fiance, "David," and I are getting married soon. We have been living together and engaged for a year, and together eight years. It takes him forever to get things done around the house or buy things we need. I have tried lists and constant reminders.

David recently lost his job and is interviewing to find another one. He loves sports, so he plays softball with his friend in a league, which takes up an entire day of the weekend. When he comes home, he wants to watch sports on TV.

The house is old (it was my grandfather's), and there's always something that needs doing or fixing. When I ask him to help, he pushes it to the next day or says he'll get to it eventually. I told him he needs to grow up and start shouldering responsibilities. This is causing our relationship to suffer. I have been wanting to see a marriage counselor, but David refuses.

We're about to get married and I'm afraid I'm walking into a trap and the rest of my life will be one in which he has all the fun and I do all the housework. Help!

SEES THE WRITING ON THE WALL

DEAR SEES: I'll try. Before entering into a marriage, couples should have premarital counseling. Clearly, you and David haven't done that. Please understand that at this point in your relationship, he should still be on his best behavior. This may be the way he handles—or more accurately AVOIDS— responsibility.

I recommend you put the wedding on hold a little longer and talk with a counselor. If he's unwilling to go, please do not let it hold you back. You will find it to be supportive, enlightening and valuable.

DEAR ABBY: My husband of 11 years and I have a running argument. I say a man should walk curbside. My husband insists that in the military, the higher-ranking officer always walks on the right. He says he "honors" me by doing so. I am grateful to have such a loving, caring spouse, but I'm not comfortable with this. Your insight would be appreciated.

CALIFORNIA PEDESTRIAN

DEAR PEDESTRIAN: You were taught traditional rules of good manners. One of them is that when men and women walk on the street together, the man should stay toward the curb.

Back in the day, the rule was instituted because people used to empty chamber pots from second-story windows and the refuse was less likely to hit the person closer to the house. In the horse-and-buggy days, the pedestrian closer to the street was more likely to get splashed in rainy weather. (The same can happen when cars pass through puddles today.)

Because you're uncomfortable with your husband's show of chivalry, you should explain that to him. And if he continues because it has become a reflex, all you have to do is remind him and I'm sure he'll accommodate you.

For an excellent guide to becoming a better conversationalist and a more sociable person, order "How to Be Popular." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for $7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Popularity Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

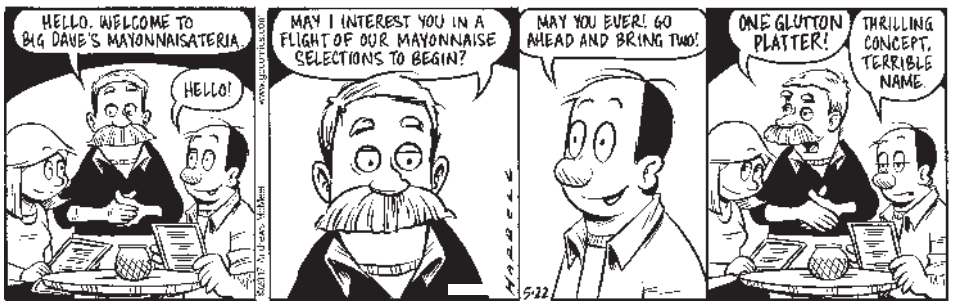
GOODNESS, YOU'RE FILTHY. INTO THE TUB WITH YOU.
I OBEY THE LETTER OF THE LAW, IF NOT THE SPIRIT.
LET'S HEAR SOME WATER RUNNING!
NUTS.

Garfield®

By Jim Davis

Adam@home

By Bryan Basset


HELLO. WELCOME TO BIG DAVE'S MAYONNAISATERIA.
HELLO!
MAY I INTEREST YOU IN A FLIGHT OF OUR MAYONNAISE SELECTIONS TO BEGIN?
MAY YOU EVER! GO AHEAD AND BRING TWO!
ONE GLUTTON PLATTER!
THRILLING CONCEPT, TERRIBLE NAME.

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy

CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Crooned
5 Aviate
8 Wee parasite
12 Nile queen, familiarly
13 Spell-off
14 Teen fave
15 Eager
16 Whole numbers
18 Folder material
20 Big lizard
21 Lyra's brightest star
23 Solidify
24 Titled widows
28 Nexus
31 Altar vow
32 Ham — (deli order)
34 Menagerie
35 Soft ball brand
37 Colorful birds
39 Sportage maker
41 Days gone by
42 Underground channels
45 Vow
49 Retribution seekers
51 Kind of suit
52 Oboe insert
53 Floral ring
54 Paradise
55 Pen fluids
56 Tummy muscles
57 Activist Parks

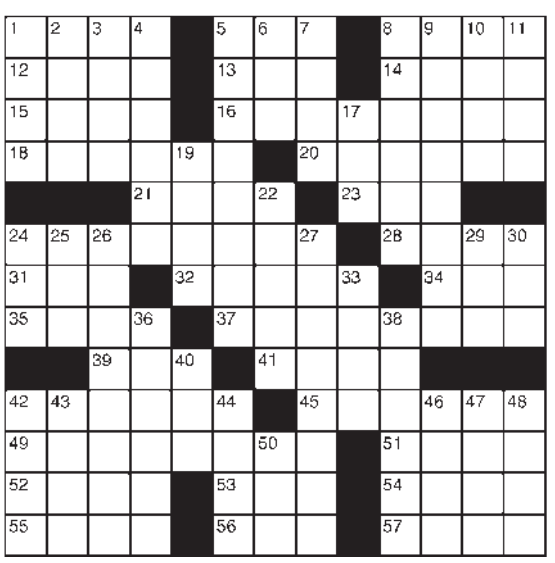
DOWN

1 Swindle
2 Thomas — Edison
3 Dresden denial
4 Big name in chocolate
5 "The X-Files" investigator
6 Author Deighton
7 Bigfoot's cousin
8 Baseball's Cabrera
9 Regard as perfect
10 Undecided
11 "Born Free" lioness
17 Nest
19 Toy block name
22 Orderly grouping
24 Cacophony
25 Praise in verse
26 Monday through Friday, for many
27 Summary
29 Neither mate
30 Decks in the ring
33 Count counterpart
36 Demons
38 Old coot
40 Bol. neighbor
42 Rani's wrap
43 Squared
44 Actress Ward
46 Nitwit
47 Leaves
48 Sicilian spouter
50 Yank's foe

Solution time: 26 mins.

C	P	A		H	A	S	E		B	R	A	N
A	U	G		E	R	I	E		L	U	L	U
S	T	J	B	B	O	R	N		U	N		T
S	T	A	I	R	S		G	A	R			
			S	E	E		U	N	B	O	R	N
T	E	B	O	W		W	I	T		K	E	A
'	R	O	N		D	A	N		C	L	A	P
E	L	M		O	E	R		L	L	A	M	A
R	E	B	O	R	N		T	A				
			A	B	J		I	U	M	M	U	S
F	E	S	S		D	E	A	R	B	O	R	N
Y	O	K	E		E	R	T	E	V	.	A	
'	S		S		S	F	A	I		F	S	P

Last Friday's Answer 5-22



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955**! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Novak Djokovic, 30; Apolo Ohno, 35; Ginnifer Goodwin, 39; Naomi Campbell, 47.

Happy Birthday: Don't labor over what you cannot change or waste time trying to get others to see things your way. Instead, seize the moment and work toward the goals you set until you reach a point where no one can deny that you are headed in the best direction. Follow your heart and refuse to let anyone interfere with your dreams. Your numbers are 5, 13, 24, 29, 33, 38, 43.

ARIES *(March 21-April 19):* You can be surrounded by opportunity, but if you don't do anything about it, you aren't likely to succeed. Don't be idle when you should be making strides to advance. Self-promote, market and do everything you can to be irresistible. ✪✪✪

TAURUS *(April 20-May 20):* Look for alternatives and take on responsibilities that will allow you to show your strength and value. You won't have to say much if you let your actions speak for you. An opportunity will come from an unforeseen source. ✪✪✪

GEMINI *(May 21-June 20):* Stick to the truth and question anyone who is prone to exaggeration. Getting the facts will help you avoid making a poor decision. Don't fear change, but do what you can to control the outcome. Let your emotions drive you to victory. ✪✪✪✪

CANCER *(June 21-July 22):* Go about your business. Interference or meddling will distract you and cause friction with someone you will need to get along with if you don't want to ruin your plans. Protect against insult or injury. ✪✪

LEO *(July 23-Aug. 22):* Seize the day. Bring about positive change and let your charm win over your peers. You've got everything going for you as long as you don't let jealousy or envy get in your way. ✪✪✪✪✪

VIRGO *(Aug. 23-Sept. 22):* Ease into whatever you decide to do today. It's in your best interest to contemplate every angle of any move you want to make. Good results will come from knowing exactly what needs to be done to reach your goals. ✪✪✪

LIBRA *(Sept. 23-Oct. 22):* Keep moving even if someone tries to distract you. Business trips or visiting someone you look to for information will be the pivotal point for a new adventure. Celebrate with someone you love to be around. ✪✪✪

SCORPIO *(Oct. 23-Nov. 21):* Don't let uncertainty hold you back. Professional opportunities should not be overlooked. Negotiate on your own behalf and you will find a unique way to get what you want as well as some extras you didn't expect. ✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS *(Nov. 22-Dec. 21):* Press on and do what makes you happy. Network and interact with people who have something of interest to share. Gravitate toward fast-paced activities that require endurance, skill and competitive drive. Celebrate your victory with someone you love. ✪✪✪✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN *(Dec. 22-Jan. 19):* Keeping a steady pace will help you avoid slipping into someone else's unsteady world. Walk away from anyone who is unpredictable. Stick close to home and work on projects that don't require you to share space or ideas with others. ✪✪

AQUARIUS *(Jan. 20-Feb. 18):* Mix things up a bit. Get together with people you have worked with in the past and you'll be offered information that can lead to an interesting new position. Romance is in the stars and will improve your personal life. ✪✪✪✪

PISCES *(Feb. 19-March 20):* Be honest about what you want and the goals you plan to achieve. Unless you have a clear vision of the way you want to see things unfold, it will be difficult to put your plans into motion. Re-evaluate your options. ✪✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are aggressive, outgoing and original. You are open-minded and curious.

Eugenia's websites -- eugenialast.com for Ask Eugenia, daily timing and compatibility services, and join Eugenia on twitter/facebook/linkedin.

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

6		7	8					1
		9	4				3	2
2	3			9				
5			1		8			7
		2		7		3		
1			3		2			8
				6			8	9
7	1				5	2		
9					1	5		4

Difficulty Level ★ 5/22

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Last Friday's Answer

4	3	9	2	5	8	1	7	6
6	2	5	7	4	1	3	9	8
1	8	7	3	9	6	2	5	4
5	9	6	8	7	2	4	3	1
8	4	3	6	1	5	7	2	9
7	1	2	4	3	9	6	8	5
2	7	1	9	8	4	5	6	3
9	6	4	5	2	3	8	1	7
3	5	8	1	6	7	9	4	2

Difficulty Level ★★★★ 5/21

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WONDERWORD

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the **WONDERWORD.**

BOOST YOUR VITAMIN C Solution: 10 letters

C	D	S	C	I	B	R	O	C	S	A	G	I	N	G
U	A	L	C	A	R	T	I	L	A	G	E	N	O	B
S	E	R	O	B	E	R	R	I	E	S	N	I	K	S
R	S	L	D	C	T	F	P	A	I	O	I	Y	A	P
E	S	T	C	I	I	D	V	T	I	A	T	E	L	I
P	E	S	C	S	O	A	I	T	S	Y	R	N	E	N
P	N	O	H	O	U	V	A	P	L	A	I	D	L	A
E	T	O	L	G	I	M	A	R	L	P	T	I	E	C
P	I	B	M	G	M	B	F	S	E	A	E	Ⓚ	W	H
R	A	E	N	A	S	A	C	O	C	P	S	Ⓘ	A	E
O	L	I	L	O	T	U	T	S	O	U	A	Ⓦ	T	A
T	G	F	R	I	R	A	E	N	T	D	L	Ⓘ	E	L
E	N	B	G	V	M	Y	G	R	E	N	E	A	R	T
I	S	U	Y	O	E	X	C	R	E	T	E	D	R	H
N	E	U	T	R	A	L	I	Z	E	G	N	A	R	O

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Absorbs, Aging, Ascorbic, Berries, Blood, Bone, Boost, Cardiovascular, Cartilage, Cells, Citric, Cold, Energy, Essential, Excreted, Eyes, Fatigue, Fish, Food, Gingivitis, Guava, Health, Inflammation, Kale, Kidney, Kiwi, Muscle, Neutralize, Nitrites, Orange, Papaya, Peppers, Protein, Repair, Scurvy, Skin, Spinach, Tomato, Water

Last Friday's Answer: Home

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Durant, Warriors beat Spurs 120-108, take 3-0 lead

SAN ANTONIO (AP)—The Spurs were injured, but Golden State was expecting a fevered fight on the home floor of the five-time NBA champions.

The Warriors' depth and talent settled things early.

Kevin Durant had 33 points and 10 rebounds and Golden State beat injury-riddled San Antonio 120-108 on Saturday night to take a 3-0 lead in the Western Conference Finals.

"They were going to come out and hit us in the mouth," Durant said of what the Warriors anticipating entering the game. "I think we did a good job of taking that punch and just kept playing."

Golden State has a chance to complete its third straight series sweep in Game 4 at San Antonio on Monday night. The Warriors are the third team in NBA history to win their first 11 playoff games. Cleveland is 10-0, with a 2-0 lead over Boston in the Eastern Conference final.

"I'm not surprised," Golden State point guard Stephen Curry said of the lead. "Our goal is to win every game we play. We answered a lot of challenges throughout the course of the playoffs and learned a lot of lessons through winning. Against the Spurs, they challenge you no matter who's out there. You've got to play well to beat them."

Curry added 21 points and became the franchise leader in postseason points, passing Hall of Famer Rick Barry.

Already without leading scorer Kawhi Leonard and starting point guard Tony Parker, the Spurs lost David Lee to a left knee injury in the opening quarter.

"We have to fight with the soldiers we have," San Antonio veteran Manu Ginobili said. "Nobody is going to feel sorry for us."

Lee left with 2:57 remaining in the first, unable to put any weight on his left leg after he landed awkwardly on it following a foul by Draymond Green. Joel Anthony had to take a free throw in place of Lee, who was taken to the locker room in a wheelchair. Lee's status is unknown.

AP

Golden State Warriors forward Kevin Durant (35) comes to the assistance of teammate Golden State Warriors guard Stephen Curry (30) after he was fouled during the second half in Game 3 of the NBA basketball Western Conference finals on Saturday, May 20, 2017, in San Antonio.

San Antonio still managed to match a postseason high with 33 points in the opening quarter and lead by as many as six points in the first half.

The Spurs played on emotion, but eventually succumbed to the Warriors' firepower.

"It's not easy. Even if we were healthy, they're a great team," San Antonio guard Danny Green said. "It wouldn't be easy, regardless. With the bodies going down, very much so an uphill battle."

Durant had 19 points in the third quarter.

"I feel I can make every shot I shoot because I shoot good ones and I try to get to my spot," Durant said. "So, when they called my number, I just tried to go out there and be aggressive."

Golden State shot 55 percent from the field and was 11 for 27 on 3-pointers.

"Every time you look up, you're playing against four All-Stars," San Antonio coach Gregg Popovich said.

Klay Thompson had 17 points, and Javale McGee added 11 points, including 11 in the opening quarter for the Warriors.

Ginobili led the Spurs with 21 points, joining Hall of Famer Kareem Abdul-Jabbar as the only players 39 or older to score 20-plus points in a conference final.

San Antonio has been outscored by 73 points since Leonard left Game 1 with 7:52 remaining and the Spurs leading 78-55.

NBA player Kanter heading to US after detained in Romania

OKLAHOMA CITY (AP)—Oklahoma City Thunder center Enes Kanter is returning to the United States after being detained in a Romanian airport.

Romanian Border Police spokesman Fabian Badila confirmed to The Associated Press that the player left Romania for the United States via London.

Kanter, who is Turkish, said in a video Saturday morning on his Twitter account that the Turkish embassy canceled his passport and he'd been detained for several hours at a Romanian airport.

He later tweeted "All good baby!" and said he'd hold a news conference in New York on Sunday.

Kanter said he believed he was held because of his political views. He's been a critic of Turkish president Recep Tayyip Erdogan. Kanter supports Turkish cleric Fethullah Gulen, who opposes Erdogan.

He was traveling in Europe and Indonesia with his Enes Kanter Light Foundation when he arrived in the Romanian capital of Bucharest.

Kanter posted photos of himself with officers in the airport on Saturday, his 25th birthday. In the video, he called Erdogan a "bad, bad man" and a "dictator."

A Thunder spokesman said the team had been working with the NBA to gather information through appropriate channels.

The 6-foot-11 player, who moved to the U.S. in 2009, was the third overall pick by the Utah Jazz in the 2011 draft. He was traded to the Thunder in 2015.

Kanter has been one of the NBA's best reserves the past two years. This season, he averaged 14.3 points and 6.7 rebounds.

Boston creamed: Cavs back home after demolishing Celtics

CLEVELAND (AP)—LeBron James wrapped up his postgame news conference, popped a toothpick in his mouth and pushed back from the podium as if he had just completed a satisfying meal.

He and the Cavaliers feasted on the Celtics.

Breaking records and Boston hearts, the defending NBA champions continued an unblemished romp through these playoffs—and on course to clash again with Golden State in the Finals—on Friday night with a 130-86 win that was so thoroughly dominating that James sat out the final quarter.

With Cleveland leading by 38 in the third quarter, Cavs forward J.R. Smith mocked some Boston fans by pretending to sweep a broom across their famous parquet floor.

A mop would have been more appropriate for this carnage.

"It's hard," Celtics forward Al Horford said. "It's hard to take."

It's probably going to happen again.

Boston's chances at a comeback took a major blow Saturday as star point guard Isaiah Thomas was ruled out for the remainder of the postseason with a hip injury. Thomas had been dealing with the injury for more than a week and he was forced to sit out the second half on Friday.

It's a disappointing ending for Thomas, who had played so well following the tragic death of his sister earlier in the playoffs.

Locked and loaded from the start, the Cavaliers were precise on both ends in the Game 2 bludgeoning on Friday. With ease and relentlessness, James and his teammates imposed their will on the top-seeded and overmatched Celtics, who just days earlier had been filled with optimism after beating Washington in seven games and then winning the NBA draft lottery.

Boston basketball boss Danny Ainge might want to offer that No. 1 pick to Cleveland for James. Because until further notice or he moves, the Eastern Conference is the domain of this king.

Shortly before Friday's tip-off, the NBA announced that Russell Westbrook, James Harden and Kawhi Leonard are finalists for league MVP, leaving James out of the Top 3 in voting for the regular season award for the first time since 2008.

And while the youthful 32-year-old said he was unaware of the shocking omission when he took the court, he proceeded to score 30 points with four 3-pointers, seven assists, four rebounds, four steals and three blocks, including another one of those chase-downs that have become his calling card.

Vicious. Victorious.

There may be much more of that ahead in Games 3 and 4 as the Cavs will look to push aside the Celtics quickly and get as many as eight days off before the Finals start on June 1.

That's a bit presumptuous, of course, but there are no signs Boston can contain the indomitable James, who in his 14th season may be playing better than at any time in his life.

He's scored at least 30 points in eight consecutive playoff games, this first to do that since Kareem Abdul-Jabbar in 1970 and the three-time champ seems as driven as ever, pushing himself and the Cavs to greater heights as they seek another title. Cleveland has won 10 straight in these playoffs and a record-tying 13 in a row dating to Game 5 of last year's Finals.

Only the 1998-99 Los Angeles Lakers have won as many straight in the postseason as the Cavs, who can take sole possession of the mark on Sunday.

During his postgame media session, James insisted the MVP snub didn't bother him. His teammates were plenty irritated.

"Just another chip on his shoulder, which helps us," Smith said. "He got a vote for second team?"

"Somebody's trippin'," forward Tristan Thompson offered from an adjacent locker.

"Yeah, somebody's trippin'," Smith continued. "Everybody's entitled to their own opinion. But I don't see how you could not put him in at least the top three. If he's not going to win it and you don't even put him in the top three? It's crazy, but it's all good. I like it like that. He's driven by a completely different monster. He's not playing for Russ or James.

"He's chasing a ghost. Right now, that's the only thing to compare to him."

The ghost is Michael Jordan, and pursuing his legacy is something James has used as motivation since he was a hoops prodigy on the courts in Akron.

Nearing a seventh straight trip to the Finals—a feat last accomplished by those Bill Russell-led Celtics teams in the 60s—James needs 73 points to surpass Jordan as the top scorer in playoff history. He has already gone past Jordan on many other lists, and another championship would bring him within two of Jordan's six.

But James' only focus now is the present, Game 3, a chance to make more history and even send a message to the Warriors.

"I'm a guy who lives in the moment," James said. "Our team is in a great groove, and I'm happy to be a part of that groove. At the end of the day, we want to try to put ourselves in position to win every game. That's the goal."

Tigers beat Rangers 9-3, Indians defeat Astros 3-0

AP
Detroit Tigers catcher James McCann dives to catch a Texas Rangers' Joey Gallo (13) foul ball in the seventh inning of a baseball game in Detroit, Saturday, May 20, 2017.

DETROIT (AP)—Alex Avila, Miguel Cabrera and J.D. Martinez hit consecutive home runs in the first inning as the Detroit Tigers beat Texas 9-3 on Saturday night, ending the Rangers' 10-game winning streak.

Nicholas Castellanos added a three-run homer in the third and Justin Verlander (4-3) pitched seven solid innings for the Tigers.

The Rangers were on their longest winning streak since a 12-game run in 2011, but it ended emphatically against Detroit.

Cabrera homered in his first at-bat after missing three games with a strained oblique as A.J. Griffin (4-1) allowed nine runs and nine hits in 3 1/3 innings.

Jonathan Lucroy homered for the Rangers.

Indians 3, Astros 0

In Houston, Mike Clevinger pitched no-hit ball into the seventh inning, and Andrew Miller and Cody Allen completed the three-hitter to pitch the Cleveland Indians past the Houston Astros.

Clevinger (2-1) yielded two hits and struck out a career-high eight in 7-plus innings, the longest outing of his career.

Houston didn't get its first hit until Jose Altuve's sharp grounder down the left-field line for a single with no outs in the seventh inning. Clevinger was lifted after Evan Gattis singled with no outs in the eighth. Miller struck out two in the eighth and Allen allowed one hit in the ninth to convert his 12th save in as many opportunities and give him 21 straight dating to Aug. 18.

Lonnie Chisenhall had two hits and homered for the second straight day with a solo shot off Mike Fiers (1-2) in the fourth inning to help the Indians take their second straight from Houston.

Mets 7, Angels 5

In New York, Jose Reyes had three instrumental hits, including the 2,000th of his career, as the New York Mets held off the Los Angeles Angels.

New York gave up three runs in a nervous ninth inning before fill-in closer Addison Reed struck out pinch-hitter Danny Espinosa on a full-count fastball with the bases loaded for his sixth save.

Terry Collins became the longest-tenured manager in team history, passing Davey Johnson (1984-90) by reaching 1,013 games with the Mets.

The oldest skipper in the majors, seven days shy of his 68th birthday, he massaged an unreliable bullpen through four innings after starter Zack Wheeler (3-2) unraveled in the sixth.

Angels rookie Alex Meyer (2-2) allowed four runs — three earned — and three hits in four-plus innings.

Orioles 7, Blue Jays 5

In Baltimore, Welington Castillo hit a go-ahead home run for the second consecutive game to lead the Baltimore Orioles past the Toronto Blue Jays at sold-out Camden Yards.

The Orioles improved to 15-3 at home — the best mark in the majors — and can complete a three-game sweep Sunday. Baltimore took over first place in the American League East by a half-game over the New York Yankees, who lost to Tampa Bay earlier Saturday.

Jose Bautista had given Toronto a 5-4 lead with a three-run homer off winning pitcher Mychal Givens (5-0) in the seventh.

Baltimore responded in the bottom half when Chris Davis and Mark Trumbo hit one-out singles. Castillo followed with the biggest blow when he hit an 0-2 pitch from Danny Barnes (0-2) over the fence in left.

Braves 5, Nationals 2

In Atlanta, Rio Ruiz, Matt Kemp and Tyler Flowers hit home runs as the Atlanta Braves again relied on their bullpen for a victory over Max Scherzer and Washington, the Nationals' fourth straight loss.

After Bartolo Colon allowed two runs, one earned, in 4 1/3 innings, five relievers combined for 4 2/3 hitless innings. Ian Krol (1-1) recorded the final two outs in the fifth. Jim Johnson pitched the ninth for his eighth save.

Ruiz and Kemp hit homers off Scherzer (4-3). The shot by Ruiz in the second was his first career homer and first hit of the season.

Pirates 6, Phillies 3

In Pittsburgh, Ivan Nova pitched into the eighth inning for his first win in four starts since April 29, leading the Pittsburgh Pirates past the Philadelphia Phillies.

Nova (4-3) allowed three runs and nine hits in 7 1/3 innings. The NL Pitcher of the Month in April struck out three and walked none.

Francisco Cervelli and Adam Frazier hit two-run singles during a four-run sixth inning that extended the Pirates' lead to 6-1. David Freese's leadoff home run, his fourth, in the fourth inning broke a 1-1 tie.

Athletics 8, Red Sox 3

In Oakland, California, Chad Pinder hit a monster home run while Khris Davis and Mark Canha also connected in the fifth inning as the Oakland Athletics cleared the fences four times in all to beat the Boston Red Sox for their third straight win.

Hanley Ramirez homered for Boston, which has lost three in a row.

Jed Lowrie had a solo shot in the sixth for Oakland, which leads the AL with 63 home runs. A's manager Bob Melvin didn't see any of them in person after being ejected in the second inning.

While no official records are kept, the A's said Pinder's deep drive into the plaza reserved section is believed to be just the fourth home run to reach the second-deck seating level since it was built in 1996.

Rays 9, Yankees 5

In St. Petersburg, Florida, Corey Dickerson homered twice as the Tampa Bay Rays won their season-high fourth in a row, beating the New York Yankees in a game that included three hit batters, three ejections and one animated argument.

Yankees rookie Aaron Judge hit his 15th home run, most in the majors. He also doubled and has a career-best eight-game hitting streak.

New York manager Joe Girardi used his hands to cover the plate with dirt after being tossed by umpire Scott Barry in the fifth inning. That came right after pitching coach Larry Rothschild was ejected by Barry during a mound visit.

Rays starter Matt Andriese hit Matt Holliday after giving up a home run to Gary Sanchez in the fifth. In the bottom half, Yankees reliever Tommy Layne plunked Dickerson, who had hit two home runs off Masahiro Tanaka. Andriese (4-1) hit Judge with a pitch leading off the sixth and was thrown out.

Giants 3, Cardinals 1, 13 innings

In St. Louis, Christian Arroyo's two-run double broke a scoreless tie as the San Francisco Giants outlasted the St. Louis Cardinals.

Arroyo's double off the wall in left field scored Buster Posey and Brandon Crawford and came on the 12th pitch he saw from Cardinals reliever Kevin Siegrist (0-1). Posey, Crawford and Eduardo Nunez singled to load the bases, giving the Giants their first runners in scoring position in the game.

Giants starter Jeff Samardzija threw eight innings, scattering five hits and striking out eight. Hunter Strickland (1-1), Derek Law and Josh Osich pitched in relief for the Giants, who won for the seventh time in eight games. Mark Melancon earned his eighth save.

Reds 12, Rockies 8

In Cincinnati, Scott Schebler's homer completed Cincinnati's comeback from a five-run deficit as the Reds ended a seven-game losing streak — their longest in a year — with a victory over the Colorado Rockies.

Colorado rookie Antonio Senzatela was in line for an NL-leading seventh win before the Rockies' bullpen let the big lead slip away. Senzatela had a bases-loaded single during a six-run fifth inning that put the Rockies ahead 8-3.

Devin Mesoraco hit a solo homer to start the Reds' sixth against Chad Qualls, who faced only four batters. Schebler's three-run shot off Mike Dunn (2-1) finished a six-run rally.

White Sox 16, Mariners 1

In Seattle, Avisail Garcia homered in his first two at-bats and had a career-high six RBIs, and the Chicago White Sox battered Seattle's depleted pitching staff.

The White Sox knocked around Seattle starter Yovani Gallardo (2-4) and no one provided more shots than Garcia. He hit a three-run homer in the first inning, added a solo shot in the third and greeted reliever Dillon Overton with a two-run double in the fourth. The four hits were a career high.

Garcia wasn't alone in pounding Seattle's pitching staff. Matt Davidson hit a two-run homer, Willy Garcia hit the first home run of his career and the 16 runs were the most scored by the White Sox since April 20, 2014, at Texas when they also scored 16.

Mike Pelfrey (1-4) allowed just one run and four hits in six innings.

Marlins 10, Dodgers 6

In Los Angeles, Giancarlo Stanton hit three doubles in a game for the first time in his career while Dan Straily didn't allow a hit until the fifth inning as the Miami Marlins snapped a five-game losing streak.

J.T. Riddle had three hits, including a home run, and four RBIs for the Marlins, who had lost 10 of their previous 11 games.

The first hit allowed by Straily (2-3) was Kike Hernandez's home run with two outs in the fifth. Straily pitched 5 2/3 innings, allowing three runs on four hits.

Corey Seager and Cody Bellinger hit back-to-back homers in the seventh to cut the deficit to 10-6. Bellinger also became the fastest to hit nine home runs (24 games) in Dodgers history.

Diamondbacks 9, Padres 1

In San Diego, Robbie Ray took a shutout into the eighth inning and David Peralta had four hits as the Arizona Diamondbacks beat the San Diego Padres for their fifth straight win.

Ray (3-3) limited the Padres to just two hits and three walks while striking out six in 7 2/3 innings. Tom Wilhelmsen struck out Wil Myers with the bases loaded in the eighth, and J.J. Hoover allowed the Padres' lone run on an infield single by Allen Cordoba in the ninth.

Paul Goldschmidt had a two-run single in the Diamondbacks' five-run first inning as the first four batters got hits against Luis Perdomo (0-1). Jake Lamb had an RBI double and Chris Herrmann added a two-run homer in the inning.

SSFM cruises past Arianne Fish Mart

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

SSFM registered a double-digit winning margin against Arianne Fish Mart, 102-89, during the second game in the 2017 San Antonio Summer Basketball League last Friday night at the San Antonio court.

SSFM caught fire in the second half and withstood Arianne Fish Mart's rally in the third period en route to the 13-point victory.

Four SSFM players combined for more than half of the team's output to beat Arianne Fish Mart with shooting forward Andrew Ashburn leading the way with his 29 points. Gino Libuw chipped in 20, while Dan Barcinas and Andrew Palino contributed 14 and 13, respectively.

From a 51-42 halftime lead, SSFM threatened to breakaway, taking a 65-49 edge at the halfway mark of the third canto. Libuw, Barcinas, and Ashburn teamed up for 10 in SSFM's 14-7 scoring surge, while Gio Daniel added 4 off the bench to give their squad the twin-digit advantage.

However, SSFM's lead went down to as low as 7, 59-65, as it starters took a breather, allowing Arianne to make some headway behind the 5 points of Ken Viray and Elgene Mangali's 4.

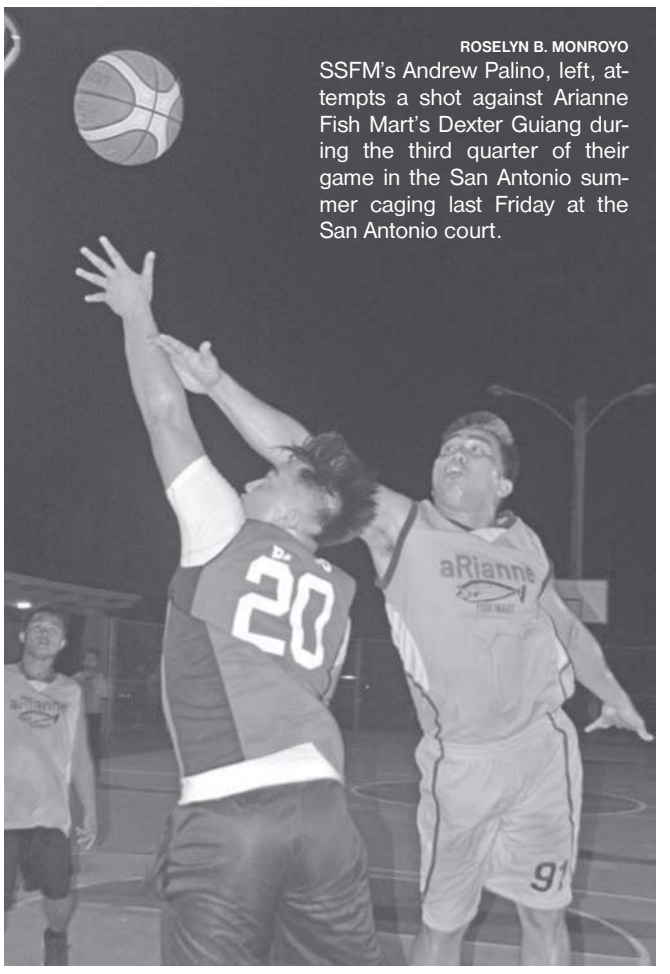
Sensing trouble, SSFM brought back its key players into the game and an and-1 play from Dan Barcinas halted Arianne's rally and helped SSFM regain its double-digit lead, 68-58. SSFM was never threatened after that as it even registered its biggest lead in the match at the end of the third canto, 80-68.

Arianne Fish Mart failed to continue its uphill climb as only Viray and Mangali consistently hit baskets for the squad and when their other teammates found their targets, it was already too late, as SSFM had enough cushion and time on its side.

Mangali scored a team-high 29 points on a losing effort for Arianne, which drew 28 markers from Viray.

In the first game, *Marianas Variety* led from start to finish to ease past Armatech, 87-63.

Melvin Villarin paced *Marianas Variety* with his 18 points and got enough help from his teammates. Ivan Devero contributed 16, Prince Factor tallied 14, and Kelvin Fitial logged 13. Salam Younis and Alex Standish combined for 13 more points for the winning squad.



ROSELYN B. MONROYO
SSFM's Andrew Palino, left, attempts a shot against Arianne Fish Mart's Dexter Guiang during the third quarter of their game in the San Antonio summer caging last Friday at the San Antonio court.

First Game

Marianas Variety 88 – Villarin 19, Devero 16, P. Factor 14, Fitial 13, Younis 8, Standish 6, Malonzo 5, Pineda 2.

Armatech 63 – J. Malasarte 12, Manansala 11, B. Malasarte 11, Asuhan 8, Chavez 7, Samson 6, Guevarra 4, Tolosa 4, Umali 3.

Scoring by quarters: 15-12, 39-23, 60-43, 88-63.

Second Game

SSFM 102 – Ashburn 29, Libuw 20, Barcinas 14, Palino 13, Babauta 9, Tenepere 5, Hammond 4, Daniel 4.

Arianne Fish Mart 89 – Mangali 29, Viray 28, Guiang 14, Villacrusis 14, Paraiso 2.

Scoring by quarters: 24-22, 51-42, 80-62, 102-89.

PLAYOFFS

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cho's single driving Jerald Cabrera home. Titanium then went without a run in the next five innings, no thanks to Peter Lieto's steady performance at the mound for the Falcons.

Lieto, who started his shift by accidentally hitting Titanium leadoff batter Lucio Kalen, allowed only five hits in six innings and had eight strikeouts. With him on the mound, the Falcons forced Titanium to 1-2-3 inning in the first and third and no more than six players from the losing squad were able to bat.

Lieto was eventually replaced by J.J. Lifoifoi early in the sixth inning and the former went on to bat for the Falcons at the top of the seventh and scored off Titanium's error at third base for their 7-1 lead.

Titanium then finally ended its silence at the bottom of the eighth off Nathan Camacho's RBI single and the squad had a chance to earn more runs with Camacho making it to third and Jack Sablan at first off a fielder's choice with two outs. However, the Falcons got the needed stop in the ensuing play when rightfielder Riungel caught a fly from Jon Deleon Guerrero. Earlier at the bottom of the seventh, Titanium was also in scoring position, but Frankie Lifoifoi got the fly from Jon Delos Reyes, leaving Pat Tenorio stranded at third.

A quick 1-2-3 inning of the Falcons at the top of the ninth gave Titanium a slim chance to mount a comeback and the latter needed five runs to bring the playoff game to extra innings. However, it fell three runs short as after Ken Kalen scored off a Falcons error and Lucio Kalen's sacrifice out brought Joe Palacios home, Titanium was called for the third and final out when Bradley Lieto caught Jhace Palacios' fly. Earlier, Tenorio led off for Titanium and flied out, too at centerfield.

With the victory, the Falcons earned the right to challenge pennant champion and unbeaten Go See Mark in the best-of-five semis series. Game 1 of the Falcons-GSM Final Four showdown will be played tonight, while BSI Aces and defending champions Chalan Kanoa Bears will start their own semis series tomorrow.

FALCONS

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to score in the second inning when they had runners on third and second with only one out, however Falcons starting pitcher Keoni Serrano fanned out Borja, while Taisei Desebel was booted out on a 5-3 play for the third out. In the fourth inning, Jylon Sablan was in scoring position, but the Falcons stranded him when Serrano struck out Angelo Igitol.

Then in the fifth inning, after Igitol's single drove home Sablan, the Braves loaded the bases with two outs. However, the Falcons frustrated the Braves anew when Evangelista picked up the shot of Tristan Norita and threw to first baseman Gonzales for the third out.

After the big defensive stop, the Falcons were called for a quick 1-2-3 inning, putting more pressure on the Braves at the top of the sixth. The Braves must score three runs to extend the game and keep their pennant hopes alive. However, the Braves got off to a bad start when its leadoff batter flied out. Borja stepped into the plate next, was walked by relief pitcher Riungel, and left stranded at first when Desebel field out to center and Riungel fanned out Camacho.

The Falcons' victory against the Braves completed the squad's sweep of all three divisions this season as the former took the pennant in the Junior and Senior League competitions, too.

Meanwhile, after the rubber match for the pennant, the playoff round for the Major division also started last Saturday.

No. 3 seed Comets played against No. 6 McDonald's in the first game with the former posting a 4-2 victory. However, McDonald's placed the match under protest, saying the Comets used an illegal bat. *Saipan Tribune* inquired with SLLB officials about the protest, but has yet to get a response at press time.

One more playoff match took place yesterday with No. 4 Little Legals scheduled to meet No. 5 Pirates-2. Results of last Saturday's game along with the playoff matches yesterday will be reported this week. The playoff pairings yesterday were the Falcons versus Bank of Saipan and Braves vs Docomo Ol'Aces.

LeGarrette Blount joins the Eagles on 1-year contract

PHILADELPHIA (AP)—LeGarrette Blount is bringing his power running to Philadelphia.

The Eagles and Blount agreed on a one-year contract Wednesday, giving the team a bruising back to complement their group of smaller, speedy runners.

Blount led the NFL with 18 touchdowns rushing in 2016 while helping the New England Patriots win the Super Bowl. He ran for 1,161 yards, averaging 3.6 per carry.

"LeGarrette Blount is a tough, physical runner who has enjoyed a great deal of success in New England and we are excited about adding him to this football team," said Howie Roseman, Eagles executive vice president of football operations. "We feel good about the depth and competition that we have created at the running back position and we are looking forward to getting the guys out on the field next week for (organized team activities)."

The 30-year-old Blount is the latest veteran playmaker the Eagles have added in free agency. They also signed wide receivers Alshon Jeffery and Torrey Smith, giving Carson Wentz more options.

Blount joins his fourth team in eight seasons. He began his career in Tampa Bay and played briefly with Pittsburgh in between two stints with New England, where he won two Super Bowls.

Blount has 5,122 yards rushing in his career and 4.4 average yards per carry to go with 49 TDs.

Veteran Darren Sproles, second-year pro Wendell Smallwood and rookie Donnel Pumphrey will team with Blount in the backfield.

The Patriots are expected to receive a compensatory draft pick for losing Blount.

CAROL

From Page 28

pretty even as shown in the scores in the first two sets, but Lee and Grishuk showed some nerves in the end to pull off the close win and give the former her first title in the Junior ITF Circuit in her third and last tournament in Morocco this year.

Before her victory in the RUC Tennis Junior Open, the 15-year-old Lee made two finals appearances in singles and one in doubles. She lost to Lisa Mays of Australia, 4-6, 3-6, in the Open Junior BNP PARIBAS de Nouvelle-Caledonie in New Caledonia last year. In the doubles finals of the same tournament, Lee and Palau's Ayana Rengiil bowed to their Japanese foe, 5-7, 4-6, while in the Oceania Open Junior Championships in Fiji last year, the CNMI bet bowed to Australia's Kaitlin Stains in the singles finale, 4-6, 1-6. The Commonwealth junior player had numerous quarterfinals and semis stints in world ranking events since joining the Junior ITF Circuit mid 2015.

With her doubles victory in the Grade 4 tournament, Lee did not only get her first Junior ITF title, but she also earned 40 ranking points. Junior ITF has yet to add Lee's ranking points, but the world No. 330 is assured to go up the ladder several notches after her triumph in Casablanca.

From Morocco, Lee is scheduled to return to Fiji this afternoon to continue training at the ITF/OTF regional facility and prepare for two ranking events in New Caledonia. Once her tournaments in the French territory are over, the CNMI player will go back to Fiji to join three more competitions.

NMI Junior Championships

Meanwhile, action in the main draw in the girls and boys singles and doubles events of the 2017 Northern Marianas Junior Championships will kick off tomorrow, while qualifying games in the boys singles started yesterday at the Pacific Islands Club court.

Players from Japan, the Philippines, Korea, Chinese-Taipei, Hong Kong, Macau, India, Australia, and Guam will be battling for bragging rights and ranking points in the Grade 5 tournament. Several CNMI junior players are also entered in the competition.

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

NBA STANDINGS

AMERICAN LEAGUE

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Washington	25	17	.595	—
Atlanta	18	22	.450	6
New York	18	23	.439	6½
Philadelphia	15	25	.375	9
Miami	15	27	.357	10

Central Division

Milwaukee	25	18	.581	—
St. Louis	21	19	.525	2½
Chicago	21	20	.512	3
Cincinnati	20	22	.476	4½
Pittsburgh	19	24	.442	6

West Division

Colorado	27	17	.614	—
Arizona	26	18	.591	1
Los Angeles	25	19	.568	2
San Francisco		19	25	.432
8				
San Diego	15	30	.333	12½

NATIONAL LEAGUE

East Division

Washington	25	17	.595	—
Atlanta	18	22	.450	6
New York	18	23	.439	6½
Philadelphia	15	25	.375	9
Miami	15	27	.357	10

Central Division

Milwaukee	25	18	.581	—
St. Louis	21	19	.525	2½
Chicago	21	20	.512	3
Cincinnati	20	22	.476	4½
Pittsburgh	19	24	.442	6

West Division

Colorado	27	17	.614	—
Arizona	26	18	.591	1
Los Angeles	25	19	.568	2
San Francisco	19	25	.432	8

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

AFC Grassroots Football Day 2017

PHOTOS By ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Matansa, left, and Kanoa players battle for possession.

Matansa and Kanoa players chase the ball during their co-ed U12 game in the Asian Football Confederation Grassroots Football Day 2017 3 vs 3 Tournament held early this month at the Koblerville Elementary School Field.

Two Paire FC players chase the ball during their U10 game against Matansa.

Two players from TanHoldings FC battle for the ball.

Matansa coach Ho Jin Woo, second right, gives pointers to his U12 players.

A Southern United FC player dribbles.

Shirley's Football Club players line up to practice their skills while waiting for the start of their game.

A MP United player receives a pass from his teammate.

Durant, Warriors beat Spurs 120-108, take 3-0 lead

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Saipan Tribune
Sports

Tigers beat Rangers 9-3, Indians defeat Astros 3-0

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Carol wins first Junior ITF title

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Carol Lee, seen here competing in last year's Punjas Oceania Tennis Championships in Suva, Fiji, won the doubles title in the RUC Tennis Junior Open last weekend at the Tennis Clos de l'aviation Route d'El Jadida in Casablanca, Morocco.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

The CNMI's Carol Lee reached a milestone last weekend after clinching her first Junior ITF Circuit championship.

Lee partnered with Skyler Marie Grace Grishuk of the U.S in beating Gabon's Ella Avomo and Serbia's Elena Gemovic in the doubles finals of the RUC Tennis Junior Open last Friday (Saturday on Saipan) at the Tennis Clos de l'aviation Route d'El Jadida in Casablanca, Morocco.

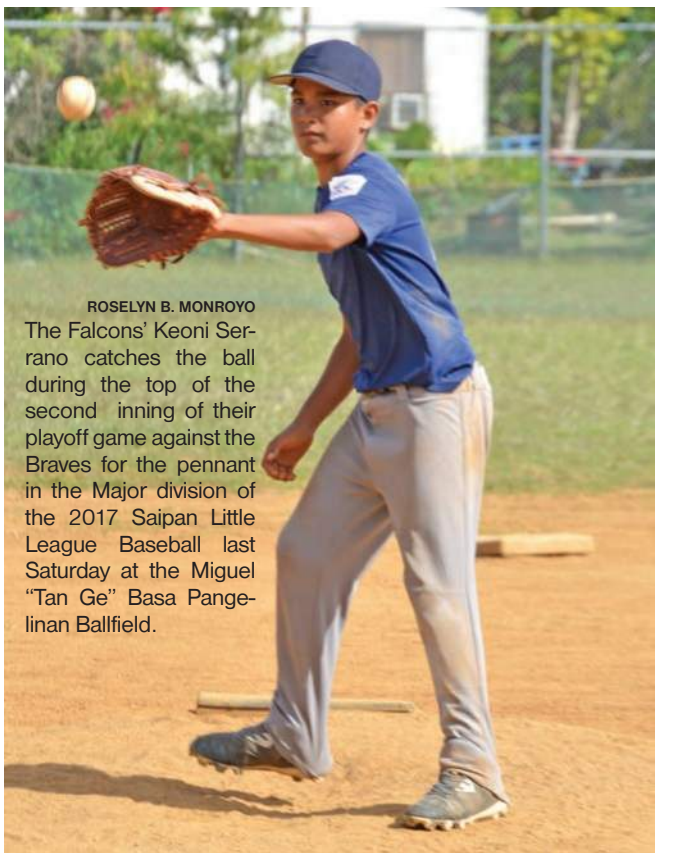
The No. 1 seed Lee and Grishuk won the opening set of their title match against the second-ranked Avomo and Gemovic, 6-3, but missed a sweep when the eventual runners-up came back swinging in the second set with a 6-3 triumph. Then in the deciding super-tiebreaker third set, the Top 2 seeds in the 16-team field went back and forth before Lee and Grishuk eked out an 11-9 triumph.

Lee and Grishuk's tough victory in the finals came a day after they eased past No. 3 seeds Oumaima Aziz of Morocco and Joanne Zuger of Switzerland in the semifinals at the upper half of the draw, 6-3, 6-3. At the lower half, Avomo and Gemovic downed No. 4 Pilar Harper of Spain and Bulgaria's Daniella Dimitrova in similar scores to set up the championship showdown between the Top 2 seeds in the doubles competition.

The finals was

See CAROL on Page 26

Falcons take Major division pennant



ROSELYN B. MONROYO
The Falcons' Keoni Serrano catches the ball during the top of the second inning of their playoff game against the Braves for the pennant in the Major division of the 2017 Saipan Little League Baseball last Saturday at the Miguel "Tan Ge" Basa Pangelinan Ballfield.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

The Falcons won the Major division pennant in the 2017 Saipan Little League Baseball following a 5-2 victory over the Braves in a playoff game last Saturday at the Miguel "Tan Ge" Basa Pangelinan Ballfield.

The Falcons scored in the first two innings to prevail in the battle for the pennant and the top seed in the division between the teams from the northern side of the island.

Second baseman Achilles Evangelista helped the Falcons gain the needed runs early as his single drove home leadoff batter Jon Riungel for their first run at the bottom of the first inning. Then in the second inning, Evangelista blasted a two-RBI double. The Falcons registered two more earned runs at the bottom of the second inning off Clarence Pangelinan and Chris Gonzales' RBI single each for their 5-1 advantage.

Earlier at the top of the first inning, leadoff Joel Borja put the Braves on the board as he was driven home by Heath Camacho's single. However, the Braves were silenced in the next three innings before saving only one run in the fifth, as they had a lot of missed opportunities in the last five innings with the Falcons stepping up on defense to take the win and the pennant.

The Braves had a chance

See FALCONS on Page 26

Falcons catch last flight to playoffs

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

The Falcons completed the semis cast in the 2017 Saipan Baseball League after surviving Titanium, 7-4, in a playoff game last Friday night at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield.

A six-run top of the second inning allowed the Falcons to gain control of the match early and they kept the driver's seat and the important win after limiting Titanium to one run in the first seven innings and holding their ground against the latter's late rally.

After neither squad scored in the first inning, the Falcons jumped to a 6-0 advantage at the top of the pivotal second inning behind the two-RBI single to deep centerfield by first baseman Bradley Lieto. Ian Norita also let go a single to centerfield, bringing A.J. Evangelista home, while Frankie Lieto and J.J. Lifoifoi reached off Titanium's throwing errors. J.J. Lifoifoi also made it home off a sacrifice out from R.J. Riungel.

After their defensive lapses, Titanium also struggled on its offense as it countered with only one run at the bottom of the second inning with Brian Cama-

See PLAYOFFS on Page 26

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
The Falcons exchange high and low fives after scoring six runs at the top of the second inning of their playoff game against Titanium for final semis seat in the 2017 Saipan Baseball League last Friday night at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield.